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COUNTY COUNCIL OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Council Meeting

November 14, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, Easton, Maryland

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Chuck F. Callahan

Pete Leshner

Keasha N. Haythe

Lynn L. Mielke

Dave Stepp

Reported by

Diane Houlihan

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<p>1 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Let's go ahead and</p> <p>4 get started. I want to welcome everybody to</p> <p>5 tonight's meeting.</p> <p>6 And if everybody could stand, and we're</p> <p>7 going to say the prayer and the Pledge of</p> <p>8 Allegiance of the flag.</p> <p>9 (Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.)</p> <p>10 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Let's go ahead and</p> <p>11 get started here with the agenda. The agenda</p> <p>12 is before us on November 14th. Is there any</p> <p>13 additions, deletions, or corrections to the</p> <p>14 agenda tonight? Okay. Hearing none, the</p> <p>15 agenda is accepted by unanimous consent. Okay.</p> <p>16 Next is the minutes. Council has had time</p> <p>17 to look at the minutes. Are there any</p> <p>18 additions, deletions, or corrections to the</p> <p>19 minutes? Okay. Hearing none, the chair moves</p> <p>20 that the minutes be accepted as unanimous</p> <p>21 consent. Okay.</p>	<p>1 functioned as the official arts agency in</p> <p>2 Talbot County.</p> <p>3 And whereas, since its establishment in</p> <p>4 1987, grant funding totaling over \$2.5 million</p> <p>5 has been distributed by the Arts Council to</p> <p>6 local arts organizations, art projects, and</p> <p>7 arts education in schools.</p> <p>8 And whereas, Talbot Arts supports access</p> <p>9 to the arts for all citizens and visitors to</p> <p>10 Talbot County, especially in underserved</p> <p>11 communities, including people in healthcare</p> <p>12 settings, seniors, minority groups, those who</p> <p>13 are economically disadvantaged, and those with</p> <p>14 special needs.</p> <p>15 And whereas, Talbot Arts continues to</p> <p>16 strive to bring art opportunities to our</p> <p>17 community, having awarded 20 community art</p> <p>18 development grants, 12 school grants, 11 summer</p> <p>19 art scholarship grants to students, four mini</p> <p>20 grants, and five special project grants.</p> <p>21 And whereas, recent projects include a</p>
Page 3	Page 5
<p>1 Next is the disbursements of October 31st,</p> <p>2 November 7th, and November 14th. Council has</p> <p>3 had a chance to take a look at all that. Is</p> <p>4 there any corrections or additions or deletions</p> <p>5 to the disbursements? Okay. Hearing none, the</p> <p>6 chair moves that the disbursements be accepted</p> <p>7 as unanimous consent. Okay.</p> <p>8 First up tonight is a proclamation from</p> <p>9 the Talbot Arts. You guys want to come on up.</p> <p>10 How are you?</p> <p>11 MS. STEWARD: Good. How are you?</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: Good. Madam Secretary,</p> <p>13 would you go ahead and please read the</p> <p>14 proclamation into the record. That would be</p> <p>15 great.</p> <p>16 MS. MORRIS: Yes. This is a Certificate</p> <p>17 of Recognition for Talbot Arts.</p> <p>18 Whereas, Talbot Arts, funded annually by</p> <p>19 the Maryland State Arts Council and</p> <p>20 supplemented by grants from Talbot County and</p> <p>21 the Towns of Easton and St. Michaels, has</p>	<p>1 workshop for nonprofits to learn about public</p> <p>2 art grant opportunities, portrait sketches for</p> <p>3 the health care heroes project, in partnership</p> <p>4 with Arts for Learning Maryland to bring funds</p> <p>5 and resources to art classrooms in the county.</p> <p>6 Now, therefore, we, the County Council of</p> <p>7 Talbot County, do hereby award this Certificate</p> <p>8 of Recognition to Talbot Arts in appreciation</p> <p>9 of their contributions to the culture, quality</p> <p>10 of life, and economic development in Talbot</p> <p>11 County for the benefit of the residents and</p> <p>12 visitors and join in celebration of the arts by</p> <p>13 highlighting the upcoming annual Art Showcase</p> <p>14 on November 15, 2023, which celebrates the</p> <p>15 innovative visionaries who have provided</p> <p>16 enriching cultural opportunities to their</p> <p>17 communities.</p> <p>18 Given under our hands in the great seal of</p> <p>19 Talbot County this 14th day of November in the</p> <p>20 year of our Lord, 2023.</p> <p>21 MS. STEWARD: Thank you.</p>

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<p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Madam Secretary.</p> <p>2 Is there a motion?</p> <p>3 MR. LESHER: So moved.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: Second?</p> <p>5 MS. HAYTHE: Second.</p> <p>6 MS. MIELKE: Second.</p> <p>7 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. There's a motion and</p> <p>8 second to go ahead and approve the</p> <p>9 proclamation. Madam Secretary, call the vote.</p> <p>10 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>11 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>12 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>13 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>14 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Leshner.</p> <p>15 MR. LESHNER: Aye.</p> <p>16 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Mielke.</p> <p>17 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>18 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>19 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>20 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Welcome.</p> <p>21 MS. STEWARD: Thank you.</p>	<p>1 It's going to be a lot of fun. There's even</p> <p>2 going to be a red carpet. So if you can come,</p> <p>3 we hope you will join us at the Academy of Art</p> <p>4 Museum. It's tomorrow evening at 5:30.</p> <p>5 And we're going to be honoring two special</p> <p>6 guests tomorrow night. Don Buxton is a former</p> <p>7 executive director of Chesapeake Music, and</p> <p>8 James Redman, who has been working with us with</p> <p>9 the arts in the Talbot County Public Schools.</p> <p>10 So they'll both be honored tomorrow evening.</p> <p>11 So we're looking forward to it.</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: That's great.</p> <p>13 MS. LARSON: Yes. My name is Nancy</p> <p>14 Larson. I'm a past president of Talbot Arts.</p> <p>15 We're very excited about honoring both</p> <p>16 James and Don. They have contributed so much</p> <p>17 throughout their years of service. And we felt</p> <p>18 that as they are moving into different</p> <p>19 directions, but this was a timely opportunity</p> <p>20 for us to recognize all that they have given.</p> <p>21 I worked with James and Don for a number</p>
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<p>1 MS. LARSON: Thank you.</p> <p>2 MS. STEWARD: Thank you so much.</p> <p>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Tell us a little bit about</p> <p>4 it.</p> <p>5 MS. STEWARD: So I'm Amy Steward. I'm</p> <p>6 president of Talbot Arts.</p> <p>7 And we're really excited. We've had I</p> <p>8 guess with the pandemic, our annual we used to</p> <p>9 call it winters walk tall, some of you may</p> <p>10 remember that back in the day, program where we</p> <p>11 would have that every year to honor those that</p> <p>12 receive grants from us. And we used to give</p> <p>13 out our checks at that event.</p> <p>14 The pandemic happened. So we started</p> <p>15 mailing our checks.</p> <p>16 And we just decided that we really wanted</p> <p>17 it to become more of a celebration of the</p> <p>18 people that we work, both our partners,</p> <p>19 educators, artists, and the art leaders in the</p> <p>20 community.</p> <p>21 So this will be our first Annual Showcase.</p>	<p>1 of years. And I can't speak highly enough of</p> <p>2 their dedication and their fine and wonderful</p> <p>3 service.</p> <p>4 So again, we hope that you will be able to</p> <p>5 join us tomorrow evening in recognition of</p> <p>6 these wonderful individuals.</p> <p>7 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you. Thank you.</p> <p>8 MS. STEWARD: Thank you.</p> <p>9 MS. MIELKE: Just wanted to add.</p> <p>10 MR. CALLAHAN: Sure.</p> <p>11 MS. MIELKE: That we have issued</p> <p>12 Certificate of Recognition for James Redman and</p> <p>13 for Don Buxton.</p> <p>14 MS. STEWARD: Thank you.</p> <p>15 MS. LARSON: Thank you.</p> <p>16 MS. MIELKE: That we can present tomorrow</p> <p>17 night.</p> <p>18 MS. STEWARD: That's wonderful. Thank you</p> <p>19 so much.</p> <p>20 MS. LARSON: Thank you.</p> <p>21 MS. MIELKE: You want me to read it into</p>

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1 the record?

2 MR. CALLAHAN: That's fine. If you'd like

3 to, sure.

4 MS. MIELKE: Certificate of Recognition to

5 James Redman. In recognition of your hard

6 work, dedication, and commitment to excellence

7 in your role as title one coordinator and

8 curriculum supervisor for Talbot County Public

9 Schools. We, the County Council of Talbot

10 County, do hereby bestow upon you as a token of

11 the esteem and gratitude of Talbot County this

12 Certificate of Recognition in commemoration of

13 your positive contributions to the Talbot

14 County arts community and for having been

15 chosen as a special honoree this year for the

16 Talbot Arts Showcase by Talbot Arts.

17 Given under our hands and seals -- our

18 hands in the great seal of Talbot County this

19 14th day of November in the year of our Lord,

20 2023.

21 And likewise, for Don Buxton. In

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1 recognition of your hard work, dedication, and

2 commitment to excellence in your role as former

3 executive director of Chesapeake Music, we, the

4 County Council of Talbot County, do hereby

5 bestow upon you as a token of the esteem and

6 gratitude of Talbot County, this Certificate of

7 Recognition in commemoration of your positive

8 contributions to Talbot County arts community

9 as having been chosen as a special honoree this

10 year for the Talbot Arts Showcase by Talbot

11 Arts.

12 Given under our hands and seals and the

13 great seal of Talbot County this 14th day of

14 November in the year of our Lord, 2023.

15 And we will be presenting these personally

16 tomorrow.

17 MS. STEWARD: Thank you very much.

18 MS. LARSON: Thank you.

19 MR. CALLAHAN: Good job.

20 MS. STEWARD: I'd just like to say thank

21 you to the Council for your support because it

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1 really makes a difference in what we can do

2 with the students especially in Talbot County.

3 And you know, every year we're faced with

4 more and more challenges in that area. So we

5 just really send, the board sends their thanks

6 to all of you. Thank you.

7 MS. LARSON: Thank you.

8 MR. CALLAHAN: That's great.

9 MS. HAYTHE: Just, you know, thank you for

10 all that you do for the kids in Talbot County.

11 And you know, the summer programs that you

12 provide, we're grateful to you to be in Talbot

13 County. And we're thankful for all your hard

14 work.

15 MS. STEWARD: Thank you.

16 MS. LARSON: Thank you.

17 MS. HAYTHE: And I will be there tomorrow

18 night.

19 MS. LARSON: Thank you.

20 MR. LESHER: You know, I just saw a

21 ranking I believe it was two weeks ago of

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1 large, medium, and small communities in their

2 support for the arts. They named Easton, but

3 they said population 37,000. So we know that

4 they're really talking about all of Talbot

5 County. And ranking it among the top ten. I

6 think we ranked fifth among the small

7 communities for the richness of the arts life

8 that takes place in this community.

9 And they noted a number of things, one of

10 which was the support for the arts that comes

11 through through government and through Talbot

12 Arts.

13 You are no small part of this recognition

14 that Talbot County has. And it is great to

15 have tomorrow night's Arts Showcase at the

16 Academy of Art Museum where we get to show,

17 once again, to our community the breadth of the

18 talent and the artistic life that we enjoy in

19 this community.

20 MS. STEWARD: Very much so. Thank you.

21 MS. LARSON: Thank you.

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1 MR. STEPP: Just continued thanks. I mean  
 2 the arts are alive and well here in Talbot  
 3 County from the hard work that you do and  
 4 contribute to all the contributions by all the  
 5 members of our community. So it's wonderful,  
 6 wonderful to be here. So thank you.  
 7 MS. STEWARD: Thank you.  
 8 MS. LARSON: Thank.  
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Like my colleagues said, we  
 10 really appreciate everything you do for Talbot  
 11 County and Easton. You do such a great job.  
 12 That's for sure.  
 13 So we got something for you.  
 14 MS. STEWARD: Okay. Great. Thank you.  
 15 MS. LARSON: Thank you.  
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup.  
 17 MS. KILMON: All right. Ready? One, two,  
 18 three. Very nice.  
 19 MR. LESHHER: That's for you.  
 20 MS. STEWARD: Thank you.  
 21 MR. LESHHER: Yes, Indeed.

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1 MS. STEWARD: See you tomorrow night.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Next on the agenda  
 3 is introduction to administrative resolution.  
 4 Madam Secretary, would you mind reading this  
 5 into the record, please.  
 6 MS. MORRIS: Yes. An administrative  
 7 resolution entitled a resolution of Talbot  
 8 County, Maryland, the county, authorizing the  
 9 issuance and sale of consolidated public  
 10 improvement general obligation bonds in a  
 11 principle amount not to exceed \$880,000  
 12 pursuant to the authority of Bill Number 1548,  
 13 enacted by the County Council of Talbot County,  
 14 Maryland, on October 24, 2023, the public local  
 15 law, section 10-203 of the Local Government  
 16 Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, 2013  
 17 replacement volume as amended, the enabling  
 18 act. And section 623 of the Charter of Talbot  
 19 County, Maryland, the Charter. The bonds to be  
 20 designated Talbot County, Maryland general  
 21 obligation bonds, St. Michaels wastewater

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1 system improvements. The net proceeds of the  
 2 sale thereof to be used and applied for the  
 3 public purpose of financing or refinancing  
 4 rehabilitation improvements to certain  
 5 wastewater facilities located within the  
 6 county, as more particularly described herein,  
 7 together with financing or refinancing of the  
 8 acquisition of all necessary property rights  
 9 and equipment and related architectural,  
 10 financial, legal, planning, and engineering  
 11 expenses describing the form and tenor of the  
 12 bonds and the terms and conditions for the  
 13 issuance and sale thereof at private sale to  
 14 the United States of America. Acting through  
 15 Rural Utility Service, United States Department  
 16 of Agriculture, USDA. Authorizing the  
 17 consolidation of separate series of bonds into  
 18 one or more bonds. Providing for the prompt  
 19 payment on the maturing principle of and  
 20 interest on the bonds. Covenanting to levy and  
 21 collect all taxes necessary to provide for the

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1 payment of the principle of and interest on  
 2 such bonds. Subject to the limitations set  
 3 forth in section 614 of the county Charter, and  
 4 generally relating to the issuance, sale, and  
 5 delivery of the bonds.  
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Good job, Madam  
 7 Secretary.  
 8 Martha, you want to come on up.  
 9 MS. SPARKS: Sure can. Bring Jean with  
 10 me.  
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. Bring Jean.  
 12 MS. SPARKS: You can come, too, because  
 13 she's probably going to be able to answer the  
 14 other half of the questions.  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.  
 16 MS. SPARKS: Martha Sparks, finance  
 17 director for Talbot County.  
 18 MS. WEISMAN: Jean Weisman, administrator  
 19 for the sanitary district.  
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.  
 21 MS. SPARKS: So these bonds are going to,

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<p>1 as the resolution mentions, that they're for</p> <p>2 the design, engineer, and construction of</p> <p>3 wastewater facilities and grades, repairs and</p> <p>4 improvements to the St. Michaels water</p> <p>5 treatment, the sewer treatment system.</p> <p>6 Jean could probably speak to more of the</p> <p>7 details of the project that is --</p> <p>8 MS. WEISMAN: Yeah. This is actually the</p> <p>9 fourth trip to the well, if you will, from</p> <p>10 USDA.</p> <p>11 It's become now a \$10 million project.</p> <p>12 The total debt service that the county has had</p> <p>13 to assume for this project is only</p> <p>14 \$2.3 million. So we've gotten \$7 million</p> <p>15 worth, plus worth of grant money in this</p> <p>16 project.</p> <p>17 This is the next step, to close on this</p> <p>18 loan. You adopted the loan resolution or the</p> <p>19 Bill 1548 last month. And this is the next</p> <p>20 step for the Council.</p> <p>21 MR. LESHHER: And Ms. Weisman, can you</p>	<p>1 MR. LESHHER: Okay. Thank you.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: Any other questions,</p> <p>3 Council?</p> <p>4 MS. HAYTHE: No. That was the only</p> <p>5 question I had, and she answered it.</p> <p>6 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Is there a motion to</p> <p>7 go ahead and approve?</p> <p>8 MR. LESHHER: I'll so move.</p> <p>9 MS. HAYTHE: Second.</p> <p>10 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and</p> <p>11 second to approve the administrative</p> <p>12 resolution. Madam Secretary, could you call</p> <p>13 the vote.</p> <p>14 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>16 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>17 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>18 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Leshher.</p> <p>19 MR. LESHHER: Aye.</p> <p>20 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Mielke.</p> <p>21 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p>
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<p>1 remind us of the scope of this project?</p> <p>2 This was the project that was inside the</p> <p>3 Town of St. Michaels?</p> <p>4 MS. WEISMAN: Inside the town and in Rio</p> <p>5 Vista. They have done a big INI, which is</p> <p>6 infiltration. So they slip lined lots of miles</p> <p>7 of pipe. They replaced pipe. They've placed</p> <p>8 the pump station at Madison Avenue. They've</p> <p>9 done the pump station on Grace Street. Just</p> <p>10 huge.</p> <p>11 And when they did that, they worked with</p> <p>12 the town and actually replaced roads once the</p> <p>13 sewer work was done.</p> <p>14 MR. CALLAHAN: That's good.</p> <p>15 MR. LESHHER: But this bond financing is</p> <p>16 for the sewer work, not for the roadwork</p> <p>17 that --</p> <p>18 MS. WEISMAN: Correct. This one was an</p> <p>19 extra, it was like a \$1.6 million extra for air</p> <p>20 release valve replacement and the pump</p> <p>21 stations.</p>	<p>1 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>2 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. There you go.</p> <p>4 MS. SPARKS: Thank you so much.</p> <p>5 MR. CALLAHAN: Appreciate it. Okay.</p> <p>6 Next on the agenda is introduction for a</p> <p>7 numbered resolution. Madam Secretary, could</p> <p>8 you go ahead and do that.</p> <p>9 MS. MORRIS: A resolution to establish a</p> <p>10 vehicle weight limit on Black Dog Alley</p> <p>11 pursuant to Maryland Code Annotated,</p> <p>12 transportation, section 25-102A11 and Chapter</p> <p>13 134 of the Talbot County Code, roads ordinance,</p> <p>14 in order to reroute heavy truck through</p> <p>15 traffic.</p> <p>16 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Mike, you want to</p> <p>17 come on up. You want to bring your right-hand</p> <p>18 man up with you?</p> <p>19 MR. MERTAUGH: Sure.</p> <p>20 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>21 MR. ELLIOTT: I think Mike is the right</p>

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1 hand. I think I'm the left.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: At least you're on.  
 3 MR. STAMP: Council President, before they  
 4 proceed, can I take the opportunity to  
 5 introduce to you Mr. Josh Elliott. Raise your  
 6 hand, Josh. Very good.  
 7 Josh is our new assistant county engineer.  
 8 And we haven't had the opportunity to introduce  
 9 him to the Council. So maybe if we can take  
 10 just a minute for him to say hi. I told him he  
 11 had at least an hour.  
 12 MR. ELLIOTT: I asked for two.  
 13 MR. STAMP: But I know Council would like  
 14 to welcome him. And since this is his first  
 15 appearance, I wanted to introduce him to you.  
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: That's great. We really  
 17 appreciate you coming with us, Josh. We've  
 18 heard a little bit about you. So we're really  
 19 looking forward to you spending a long time  
 20 with us. And you know, you're long needed.  
 21 That's for sure. So really appreciate it.

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1 MR. ELLIOTT: Thank you. Thank you.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Any other Council member?  
 3 MS. HAYTHE: Just welcome.  
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup.  
 5 MS. MIELKE: Welcome aboard.  
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. All right, Mike. Let  
 7 us know about Black Dog Alley here.  
 8 MR. MERTAUGH: Okay. So --  
 9 MR. LESHAR: You want to give him a chance  
 10 to introduce his background?  
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. Sure.  
 12 MR. ELLIOTT: So I'm Josh Elliott. I'm  
 13 originally from Delmar, Delaware. Went to high  
 14 school in Delmar.  
 15 Went down to school, University of  
 16 Alabama.  
 17 Came back up. Got married here in Talbot  
 18 County, and my wife is from Talbot County. We  
 19 now live up in Ridgely.  
 20 Worked at George, Miles & Buhr mostly over  
 21 in Lewes doing municipality engineering. So

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1 water, wastewater, roads. If a city, town  
 2 needs it, we did it.  
 3 And then recently made this change to be  
 4 closer to home. And my wife and I just had our  
 5 first baby two and a half weeks ago.  
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Congrats.  
 7 MR. STAMP: Congratulations, Josh.  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: That's great.  
 9 MS. HAYTHE: And you're here this evening  
 10 with us?  
 11 MR. ELLIOTT: She has the baby at a field  
 12 hockey event somewhere. Yeah.  
 13 MS. HAYTHE: Field hockey?  
 14 MR. ELLIOTT: Yup.  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: That's good.  
 16 MR. ELLIOTT: That's the 10,000-foot view.  
 17 If you have any questions, I'm happy to...  
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Glad to have you aboard  
 19 now. That's for sure.  
 20 MR. ELLIOTT: Yup. Thank you.  
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Yup.

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1 MR. MERTAUGH: Okay. So Black Dog Alley.  
 2 As you know, the road's pretty much become a  
 3 bypass around Easton for primarily traffic  
 4 going to and from southern Caroline County,  
 5 northern Dorchester County. Along with that  
 6 traffic volume of people using that as a  
 7 shortcut, have been a lot of heavy trucks. And  
 8 heavy trucks, they're certainly causing  
 9 maintenance issues along the roadway, some  
 10 damage. Parts of the road are quite narrow.  
 11 Probably just, if not more, important, safety  
 12 issues for the traveling public using that  
 13 road.  
 14 So the thought is that if we restrict some  
 15 of these heavy trucks, we can extend the life  
 16 of the road, improve its safety.  
 17 It's not really an extreme burden to these  
 18 trucks. Black Dog Alley more or less parallels  
 19 Route 50. Route 50 is designed for that kind  
 20 of traffic. I think obviously a lot of folks  
 21 want to avoid the congestion on 50, but the

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1 reality of it is they should stay on the roads  
 2 that they're designed for.  
 3 So I think that that's the overview of the  
 4 effort I believe.  
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: So the work session we had,  
 6 so tell the public. Really, the object is not  
 7 to shut down local traffic.  
 8 MR. MERTAUGH: Right.  
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Local farmers and local  
 10 businesses. It more of through traffic stuff.  
 11 MR. MERTAUGH: Correct. So the  
 12 legislation that Patrick drafted has the  
 13 exceptions. Agricultural, both business  
 14 that's --  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes.  
 16 MR. MERTAUGH: -- on the road. Government  
 17 vehicles, of course, and things of that nature.  
 18 So we think we've pretty well made it so  
 19 that it doesn't inhibit folks that need to use  
 20 the road.  
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Right. Okay.

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1 MR. LESHER: And I recall from the work  
 2 session, Mr. Mertaugh, that the county already  
 3 has a similar restriction on another road?  
 4 MR. MERTAUGH: Yeah. So we have really  
 5 just on the other side of Dover Road where the  
 6 south side of Black Dog begins or ends is Dover  
 7 Neck Road. We have essentially the same  
 8 situation. We had a lot of issues with trucks  
 9 going to and from the landfill several years  
 10 ago.  
 11 We've used essentially the same weight  
 12 limits that we have on that corridor for  
 13 consistency.  
 14 One of the factors with this weight  
 15 restriction was actually gross vehicle weight  
 16 rating as opposed to actually have to weigh the  
 17 individual vehicles.  
 18 The Sheriff's Office, when we enacted that  
 19 one, they, for several weeks, they just gave  
 20 the warnings. And it has not been an issue for  
 21 them.

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1 So most heavy truck drivers, which have  
 2 CDL licenses, they want to protect their  
 3 ability to work. So we don't anticipate it  
 4 being an issue.  
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Any other questions?  
 6 MR. LESHER: Well, I've witnessed the  
 7 need. I was just out on the corridor of Dover  
 8 Road and Black Dog Alley and witnessed I mean  
 9 lots of traffic going down there. But one  
 10 53-foot trailer made that turn onto Black Dog  
 11 Alley. Exactly the sort of traffic that should  
 12 be using those better built roads, the State  
 13 routes.  
 14 MR. MERTAUGH: Yeah. On the southern part  
 15 of Black Dog, there's no shoulder. The Roads  
 16 Department has done a great job keeping that  
 17 road up. It actually looks pretty good because  
 18 they've spent a lot of effort on it within the  
 19 past couple of years. But those type vehicles,  
 20 when they get on the edge of pavement with no  
 21 support, it just crumbles away. So it's just a

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1 matter of time.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.  
 3 MS. HAYTHE: Yeah. There was a tanker  
 4 truck going down Black Dog when I was going  
 5 home the other day. I'm looking. And they  
 6 were going to the southern part of Black Dog  
 7 hitting Preston Road area.  
 8 MR. MERTAUGH: Right.  
 9 MS. HAYTHE: Where they have the blinking  
 10 light. And I'm like oh, my goodness, they're  
 11 going to have to straddle the middle of the  
 12 road in order to make it to the end.  
 13 MR. MERTAUGH: Right, right.  
 14 MS. HAYTHE: So I think this is good.  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Any other questions from  
 16 Council? Okay.  
 17 Want to raise our hands to introduce this?  
 18 MR. LESHER: So introduced by Council.  
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. And Madam Secretary,  
 20 could you go ahead and announce the number and  
 21 the public hearing date, please.



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1 MS. MORRIS: Yes. This will be known as  
 2 Resolution 351 with a public hearing date of  
 3 Tuesday, December 12th, at 6:30 p.m.  
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That's great. All  
 5 right, guys. Appreciate it.  
 6 MR. MERTAUGH: Thank you.  
 7 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Next on the list,  
 8 Madam Secretary, introduce the legislation.  
 9 Could you go ahead and read that bill into the  
 10 record.  
 11 MS. MORRIS: A bill to amend Charter 11 of  
 12 the Talbot County Code, alcoholic beverages  
 13 regarding the issuance of class E beer, wine,  
 14 and liquor licenses for urban locations.  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Mr. Thomas, you want  
 16 to go ahead and help us understand this a  
 17 little bit?  
 18 MR. THOMAS: Sure. So under the current  
 19 alcoholic beverages code, there are certain  
 20 restrictions on the issuance of off-sale  
 21 licenses, which means selling alcohol for

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1 off-premises consumption.  
 2 With respect to class E licenses, which  
 3 are essentially liquor stores, they're called  
 4 alcohol dispensaries in the code, a new license  
 5 can't be issued -- there's this market study  
 6 that has to be done. It based on the  
 7 population. If there's so many licenses in the  
 8 area, then new ones can't be issued.  
 9 And every municipality I believe, except  
 10 for the Town of Trappe, currently has a class E  
 11 off-sale holder.  
 12 I believe Mr. Snyder and his father are  
 13 here this evening. They're interested.  
 14 They'll tell you a little bit more about it.  
 15 But they're interested in opening a class E  
 16 establishment in the Town of Trappe, which is  
 17 the only one that doesn't currently have that.  
 18 Currently they're prohibited from doing so  
 19 under the population requirement in the code.  
 20 So this would allow them to do that.  
 21 It wouldn't affect any other area in the

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1 county because all the other municipalities  
 2 already have one. So it would just allow each  
 3 municipality to have up to one class E  
 4 establishment without regard for the market  
 5 study.  
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That sounds great.  
 7 You guys want to come on up?  
 8 MR. SNYDER: Sure.  
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Good evening.  
 10 MR. MITCHELL: Good evening.  
 11 MR. SNYDER: Good evening. My name is  
 12 Curtis Snyder, and I'm here on behalf of  
 13 Delmarva Real Estate Management Group.  
 14 As he said, Trappe is the only  
 15 municipality without a class E beer, wine, and  
 16 liquor license.  
 17 We are working on developing the area of  
 18 Trappe, bringing new businesses in and trying  
 19 to keep the historic kind of preservation  
 20 there.  
 21 One thing that the residents approach us

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1 about is a beer, wine, and liquor store. Just  
 2 to get a bottle of wine or beer or craft beer,  
 3 I should say, or bottle of liquor for dinner,  
 4 the residents have to drive 20 minutes either  
 5 way to find a beer, wine, and liquor store.  
 6 We were less than 100 people from the 750  
 7 requirement. And with that, that doesn't  
 8 include the recent growth Trappe has already  
 9 begun to experience. So I mean regardless, we  
 10 would be there. But we can't do anything until  
 11 2030 when the new census happens.  
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.  
 13 MR. MITCHELL: Well, as you know, we're  
 14 trying to --  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Can you introduce yourself?  
 16 MR. MITCHELL: Oh, my name is Tom  
 17 Mitchell, and I'm his father-in-law. He's the  
 18 father of my granddaughter and soon-to-be  
 19 grandson.  
 20 But anyway, for those of you that haven't  
 21 been in Trappe lately, we've refurbished an

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<p>1 office building that sat vacant for ten years.</p> <p>2 We're building 24 townhouses. We've opened the</p> <p>3 Momma Maria's Mediterranean Bistro and the</p> <p>4 Coffee Trappe. And we're going to have the</p> <p>5 Trappe's new tavern opening in about a month,</p> <p>6 which will be tied into the Coffee Trappe.</p> <p>7 We've also bought property on Main Street.</p> <p>8 We got rid of the drug house that was a</p> <p>9 plague on the community for years. They were</p> <p>10 selling crack cocaine right out the front door,</p> <p>11 and the government couldn't do anything and the</p> <p>12 sheriff couldn't do anything. But Curtis</p> <p>13 figured out a way to get it into bankruptcy and</p> <p>14 then we bought it at auction and we cleaned it</p> <p>15 up. So that was the last drug house in Trappe</p> <p>16 we do believe.</p> <p>17 And then on Route 50, we bought the old</p> <p>18 auction building and we have plans there for a</p> <p>19 Dollar General. And they need a grocery store</p> <p>20 in the Town of Trappe for sure. And there's a</p> <p>21 couple of other lots there that we're looking</p>	<p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: And helping us understand</p> <p>2 what you need.</p> <p>3 MR. MITCHELL: Invite you all to Trappe.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right. Next up,</p> <p>5 we're right on time here. Madam Secretary has</p> <p>6 got us right on time here. Public hearing.</p> <p>7 Okay.</p> <p>8 You want to go ahead and read that into</p> <p>9 the record.</p> <p>10 MS. MORRIS: Yes. Bill Number 1549, an</p> <p>11 emergency bill to amend Bill Numbers 1244 and</p> <p>12 1479 for the purpose of expanding the scope of</p> <p>13 work of the capital project to replace the roof</p> <p>14 of the south wing of the Talbot County</p> <p>15 Courthouse, to also include replacing the roof</p> <p>16 of the north wing of the Talbot County</p> <p>17 Courthouse without increasing the total amount</p> <p>18 of appropriation therefor.</p> <p>19 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. I appreciate that.</p> <p>20 Mr. Thomas, you want to go ahead and just</p> <p>21 kind of bring us up to speed on this.</p>
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<p>1 for the right tenants, too.</p> <p>2 So we're really trying to bring people</p> <p>3 back to Trappe. It's such a wonderful town</p> <p>4 with tremendous historic record.</p> <p>5 And this would be part of our plan to</p> <p>6 continue to improve the community.</p> <p>7 MR. CALLAHAN: That sounds great, guys. I</p> <p>8 really appreciate it.</p> <p>9 So at this point, we're just introducing</p> <p>10 it. So raise our hands.</p> <p>11 MR. LESHER: So introduced by Council.</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Madam Secretary,</p> <p>13 could you go ahead and give us a date and a</p> <p>14 number.</p> <p>15 MS. MORRIS: Yes. This will be known as</p> <p>16 Bill Number 1550 with a public hearing date of</p> <p>17 Tuesday, December 12th, at 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>18 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That sounds great.</p> <p>19 We appreciate you guys being here tonight.</p> <p>20 MR. MITCHELL: Thank you very much.</p> <p>21 MR. SNYDER: Thank you.</p>	<p>1 MR. THOMAS: Sure. So Bill Numbers 1244</p> <p>2 and 1479 provided for a capital project to</p> <p>3 replace the roof on the south wing.</p> <p>4 The roof on the north wing also needs to</p> <p>5 be replaced, and we're able to do it without</p> <p>6 increasing the appropriation. So it's double</p> <p>7 the roof for the same price.</p> <p>8 But because the bill, those bills were so</p> <p>9 specific as to the scope of the work, we need</p> <p>10 to do this to incorporate the north wing. And</p> <p>11 it needs to be done in this emergency bill so</p> <p>12 that the work can get done as soon as possible</p> <p>13 before the harsh winter weather comes.</p> <p>14 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So that being said,</p> <p>15 I'll go ahead and open the public hearing up.</p> <p>16 And at this time, we'll give you three</p> <p>17 minutes if you're an individual. And if you're</p> <p>18 a group, we'll give you five minutes.</p> <p>19 So I'll go ahead and start on my left</p> <p>20 here. Does anybody want to come up and talk</p> <p>21 about 1244 and 1479? Okay.</p>

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<p>1 On this side, you're all by yourself over</p> <p>2 here. Okay.</p> <p>3 MR. LESHHER: The county employees on your</p> <p>4 left side already have a new roof over their</p> <p>5 head.</p> <p>6 MR. CALLAHAN: Exactly, yup. So okay.</p> <p>7 So at this stage, were you getting ready</p> <p>8 to say something? There you go.</p> <p>9 MR. STAMP: Clay Stamp, the county</p> <p>10 manager.</p> <p>11 And I'd like to, speaking during the</p> <p>12 public hearing, I would like to say that we had</p> <p>13 great success with the replacement of the south</p> <p>14 wing roof. And it did come in a bit under</p> <p>15 budget.</p> <p>16 We made sure that we reached out to the</p> <p>17 business community, which we will do again to</p> <p>18 ensure that we coordinate the operation with</p> <p>19 local businesses. So I just wanted to mention</p> <p>20 that.</p> <p>21 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That's good.</p>	<p>1 MR. LESHHER: Aye.</p> <p>2 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Mielke.</p> <p>3 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>4 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>5 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>6 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We're moving this to</p> <p>7 third reader.</p> <p>8 MS. MORRIS: Bill Number 1549, an</p> <p>9 emergency bill to amend Bill Numbers 1244 and</p> <p>10 1479 for the purpose of expanding the scope of</p> <p>11 work at the capital project to replace the roof</p> <p>12 of the south wing of the Talbot County</p> <p>13 Courthouse to also include replacing the roof</p> <p>14 of the north wing of the Talbot County</p> <p>15 Courthouse without increasing the total amount</p> <p>16 of the appropriation therefor.</p> <p>17 MR. CALLAHAN: All right. So that being</p> <p>18 said, is there a motion?</p> <p>19 MR. LESHHER: You can just call the roll</p> <p>20 now.</p> <p>21 MR. CALLAHAN: All right. Madam</p>
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<p>1 Anybody else would like to speak?</p> <p>2 Okay. I'll go ahead and, at this time, go</p> <p>3 ahead and close the public hearing on Bill</p> <p>4 1549.</p> <p>5 Is there any other discussion on Council?</p> <p>6 MR. LESHHER: We've seen the good work, and</p> <p>7 it's important to move this ahead.</p> <p>8 Are you looking for a motion to move this</p> <p>9 to third reader?</p> <p>10 MR. CALLAHAN: I am.</p> <p>11 MR. LESHHER: I will move it to third</p> <p>12 reader.</p> <p>13 MS. MIELKE: Second.</p> <p>14 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and</p> <p>15 second, Madam Secretary, to move this to third</p> <p>16 reader. Could you call the vote.</p> <p>17 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>18 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>19 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>20 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>21 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Leshher.</p>	<p>1 Secretary.</p> <p>2 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>4 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>5 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>6 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Leshher.</p> <p>7 MR. LESHHER: Aye.</p> <p>8 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Mielke.</p> <p>9 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>10 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>11 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Sounds good. Good</p> <p>13 job. All right.</p> <p>14 Now we got Clay's stuff.</p> <p>15 MR. STAMP: Thank you, Council. It's</p> <p>16 exciting we're going to move to get the north</p> <p>17 wing done. That will make Brian Moore very</p> <p>18 happy.</p> <p>19 So this evening, Council, your county</p> <p>20 manager report, I have a number of board and</p> <p>21 committee appointments to recommend to you and</p>

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<p>1 then we have four items of business that I                  2 would like to go over.                  3 The first under boards and committee                  4 appointments involves the Economic Development                  5 Commission. Requesting Council approval of the                  6 St. Michaels representative being                  7 reappointment of Rob Straebel. He's the town                  8 manager.                  9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.                  10 MR. LESHHER: I'll move for the                  11 appointment.                  12 MS. HAYTHE: Second.                  13 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Got a motion and                  14 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the                  15 vote.                  16 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Callahan.                  17 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.                  18 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Stepp.                  19 MR. STEPP: Aye.                  20 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Leshher.                  21 MR. LESHHER: Aye.</p>	<p>1 MS. MIELKE: Aye.                  2 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Haythe.                  3 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.                  4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.                  5 MR. STAMP: The next item we have is the                  6 Emergency Services Advisory Board. Major Scott                  7 Mergenthaler is stepping down from that board                  8 and the sheriff is recommending that Captain                  9 Steve Elliott be a member of the Emergency                  10 Services Advisory Board and it requires Council                  11 approval.                  12 MR. STEPP: So moved.                  13 MR. LESHHER: Second.                  14 MS. HAYTHE: Second.                  15 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and                  16 second to go ahead and appoint Steve Elliott.                  17 Madam Secretary, could you call the vote.                  18 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Callahan.                  19 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.                  20 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Stepp.                  21 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p>
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<p>1 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Mielke.                  2 MS. MIELKE: Aye.                  3 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Haythe.                  4 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.                  5 MR. STAMP: And the next one, the Town of                  6 Trappe is requesting the appointment of Walter                  7 Chase to serve on our Parks and Recreation                  8 Advisory Board.                  9 MS. HAYTHE: I make a motion to reappoint                  10 Walter Chase.                  11 MR. STEPP: Second.                  12 MR. CALLAHAN: We got a motion and a                  13 second to reappoint Mr. Chase. Madam                  14 Secretary, could you call the vote.                  15 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Callahan.                  16 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.                  17 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Stepp.                  18 MR. STEPP: Aye.                  19 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Leshher.                  20 MR. LESHHER: Aye.                  21 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Mielke.</p>	<p>1 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Leshher.                  2 MR. LESHHER: Aye.                  3 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Mielke.                  4 MS. MIELKE: Aye.                  5 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Haythe.                  6 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.                  7 MR. STAMP: The next item involves the                  8 Maryland Association of Counties. Each year                  9 the County Council appoints a legislative                  10 liaison to the Maryland Association of                  11 Counties.                  12 And we are asking Council approval to                  13 appoint Keasha Haythe as a primary                  14 representative and Lynn Mielke as the                  15 alternate.                  16 MR. STEPP: So moved.                  17 MR. LESHHER: Second.                  18 MR. CALLAHAN: We got a motion and did we                  19 have a second?                  20 MR. LESHHER: Second.                  21 MR. CALLAHAN: Did we have a second.</p>

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1 Okay. That's good.  
 2 Madam Secretary, could you call the vote.  
 3 MS. MORRIS: Yes. Mr. Callahan.  
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 5 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Stepp.  
 6 MR. STEPP: Aye.  
 7 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Leshner.  
 8 MR. LESHER: Aye.  
 9 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Mielke.  
 10 MS. MIELKE: Aye.  
 11 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Haythe.  
 12 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.  
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.  
 14 MR. STAMP: Thank you. And then finally,  
 15 Council, we have a request for the  
 16 reappointment of Mr. Michael Strannahan to  
 17 serve on the Planning Commission. His position  
 18 expires in December, and he's interested in  
 19 reappointment.  
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.  
 21 MR. LESHER: I move the appointment.

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1 MS. MIELKE: Second.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and  
 3 second to reappoint.  
 4 MR. STAMP: Michael Strannahan.  
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Michael Strannahan. Madam  
 6 Secretary, could you call the vote.  
 7 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Callahan.  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 9 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Stepp.  
 10 MR. STEPP: Aye.  
 11 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Leshner.  
 12 MR. LESHER: Aye.  
 13 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Mielke.  
 14 MS. MIELKE: Aye.  
 15 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Haythe.  
 16 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.  
 17 MR. STAMP: Next, I'll ask I guess,  
 18 Martha, can you stand by.  
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: Stand by.  
 20 MR. STAMP: Stand by. So Council, we have  
 21 a request from the Finance Office.

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1 This is the third step in the three-step  
 2 process on the USDA loan package that we talked  
 3 about a moment ago. We have a request from the  
 4 Finance Office for approval of the United  
 5 States Department of Agriculture USDA loan  
 6 resolution related to the county's financing  
 7 and refinancing of rehabilitation improvements  
 8 to certain wastewater facilities within Talbot  
 9 County.  
 10 As you read in your agenda packet and in  
 11 follow-up to the Council's action earlier in  
 12 the meeting, I'm requesting Council approval of  
 13 the USDA loan in the amount of \$880,000 for the  
 14 St. Michael's wastewater collection system.  
 15 I do have Martha here if you'd like her to  
 16 come up. But again, this is the third step in  
 17 the process that you're somewhat familiar with  
 18 at this point.  
 19 MS. HAYTHE: I'll make a motion to  
 20 approve.  
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.

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1 MR. STEPP: Second.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and  
 3 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the  
 4 vote.  
 5 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Callahan.  
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 7 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Stepp.  
 8 MR. STEPP: Aye.  
 9 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Leshner.  
 10 MR. LESHER: Aye.  
 11 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Mielke.  
 12 MS. MIELKE: Aye.  
 13 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Haythe.  
 14 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.  
 15 MR. STAMP: Good job, Martha.  
 16 The next item I have, I'll ask -- are we,  
 17 Jean and Josh. Okay. Next item I have is a  
 18 request from the Department of Public Works.  
 19 Recommendation to award Bid Number 23-11,  
 20 extension of sewer from the Region II  
 21 St. Michaels wastewater treatment plant to the

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<p>1 Mount Pleasant area under Broad Creek and to</p> <p>2 the Villages of Bozman and Neavitt, as outlined</p> <p>3 in Resolution 250.</p> <p>4 And you read in your agenda packet, the</p> <p>5 Department of Public Works is requesting</p> <p>6 Council approval for conditional award of Bid</p> <p>7 Number 23-11 as follows pending the approval of</p> <p>8 Maryland Department of the Environment.</p> <p>9 Phase 1A, Schumer, Incorporated for</p> <p>10 \$5,813,450.</p> <p>11 Phase 1B, Spring &amp; Associates, \$683,810.</p> <p>12 Phase 1C, Spring &amp; Associates, \$1,640,750.</p> <p>13 And we have Josh and Jean here that both</p> <p>14 that can answer specific questions relevant to</p> <p>15 this project.</p> <p>16 It is an exciting project.</p> <p>17 MS. WEISMAN: It is very exciting. It's</p> <p>18 going to come on the heels of Resolution 235.</p> <p>19 So this will be another 600 people that will be</p> <p>20 able to be connected to the sewer system going</p> <p>21 from where it stops on Railroad Avenue in</p>	<p>1 tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay. So it is</p> <p>2 exciting from that perspective.</p> <p>3 And of course, there are a lot of people</p> <p>4 down there that have been actively looking for</p> <p>5 this kind of relief.</p> <p>6 And the bids did come in quite favorably.</p> <p>7 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>8 MR. LESHHER: I recall that we've been</p> <p>9 worried for some time about how large the</p> <p>10 capital charges would be, the debt would be to</p> <p>11 the rate payers down there.</p> <p>12 So because these bids are so low, lower</p> <p>13 than expected anyway, you're expecting that do</p> <p>14 you have a range of what we're expecting the...</p> <p>15 MS. WEISMAN: The annual?</p> <p>16 MR. LESHHER: The fee to the customer?</p> <p>17 MS. WEISMAN: I do not yet.</p> <p>18 MR. LESHHER: So it will be worked out.</p> <p>19 But I know those pencils have been</p> <p>20 sharpened before projecting affordability for</p> <p>21 those property owners.</p>
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<p>1 St. Michaels all the way down to the end of</p> <p>2 Neavitt.</p> <p>3 One correction. The Spring &amp; Associates</p> <p>4 bid was 663,810. They had two numbers in their</p> <p>5 bid. So that's just a correction.</p> <p>6 MR. STAMP: Thank you.</p> <p>7 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>8 MS. WEISMAN: And this is funded through</p> <p>9 the MDE. There is actually \$17 million in</p> <p>10 funding for this project. This is loan</p> <p>11 funding. So coming in at \$8,118,000 is really</p> <p>12 a positive thing. This will really reduce the</p> <p>13 level of the debt that the users will have to</p> <p>14 assume.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: That's great.</p> <p>16 MR. STAMP: And just a reminder, it is</p> <p>17 exciting because we have a number of failing</p> <p>18 septic systems in that area. And of course,</p> <p>19 we'd like to recognize that these are</p> <p>20 environmental mitigation projects where you're</p> <p>21 rescuing leaking or leeching sewer systems into</p>	<p>1 MS. WEISMAN: Right, right. The</p> <p>2 engineer's estimate was around 12 million for</p> <p>3 this piece. So we're in good shape.</p> <p>4 MR. LESHHER: Terrific. Terrific. That's</p> <p>5 great news.</p> <p>6 MS. HAYTHE: Yeah.</p> <p>7 MS. MIELKE: Any other questions from</p> <p>8 Council?</p> <p>9 MS. HAYTHE: No. To be under is a good</p> <p>10 thing.</p> <p>11 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah, it is. Okay. So do</p> <p>12 I have a motion?</p> <p>13 MR. LESHHER: I'll move for approval.</p> <p>14 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>15 MS. MIELKE: Second.</p> <p>16 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and</p> <p>17 second to go ahead and approve 23-11.</p> <p>18 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>19 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>20 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>21 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p>

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<p>1 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Lesher.                  2 MR. LESHHER: Aye.                  3 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Mielke.                  4 MS. MIELKE: Aye.                  5 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Haythe.                  6 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.                  7 MR. STAMP: Thank you, Council.                  8 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup, yup.                  9 MR. STAMP: Next item we have is a request                  10 from the Department of Public Works.                  11 Recommendation to award Bid 23-12, septic tank                  12 effluent pump, STEP, system equipment.                  13 Purchase only.                  14 As you read in your agenda packet, the                  15 Department of Public Works is requesting                  16 Council approval to award Bid Number 23-12 to                  17 the sole bidder, Orenco, in the amount of                  18 \$2,082,000 for the purchase of 300 STEP units.                  19 Contingent upon approval by the Maryland                  20 Department of the Environment.                  21 And again, we have Josh and Jean here to</p>	<p>1 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Stepp.                  2 MR. STEPP: Aye.                  3 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Lesher.                  4 MR. LESHHER: Aye.                  5 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Mielke.                  6 MS. MIELKE: Aye.                  7 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Haythe.                  8 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.                  9 MR. STAMP: Thank you, Council.                  10 Thank you, Jean and Josh. Appreciate your                  11 hard work every day.                  12 The next item we have and the final item                  13 is Maryland Department of Environment. No.                  14 I'm sorry.                  15 Next item we have, I'm going to ask Donna                  16 to come up, your director of administrative                  17 services. Requesting, for a request for a                  18 letter of intent to join the Time to Care Act                  19 Insurance Collaborative with the Maryland                  20 Association of Counties.                  21 As you read in your agenda packet, I'm</p>
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<p>1 answer any more detailed questions or to add                  2 any additions or corrections I might have.                  3 MS. WEISMAN: You want to go?                  4 MR. ELLIOTT: Yeah. So this award is only                  5 for the purchase of the actual septic tanks                  6 that pump to the force mains. They'll be                  7 installed under a separate contract for each                  8 homeowner.                  9 The base bid was based on 900 units. MDE                  10 asked us to separate the 900 between Resolution                  11 235 and 250.                  12 So at this time, we're only asking for                  13 award for the 300 under Resolution 235.                  14 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Any questions from                  15 Council? Do I have a motion?                  16 MR. STEPP: So moved.                  17 MR. LESHHER: I'll second.                  18 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Madam Secretary,                  19 could you call the vote, please.                  20 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Callahan.                  21 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p>	<p>1 requesting Council's approval to issue a letter                  2 of intent to the Maryland Association of                  3 Counties indicating the Council's intention to                  4 join the Time to Care Act Insurance                  5 Collaborative to execute a memorandum of                  6 agreement.                  7 And Donna is here to speak a little bit                  8 about this effort.                  9 And of course, Keasha Haythe, Council                  10 Member Keasha Haythe was part of our detailed                  11 work on this. So I'm sure she might be able to                  12 add.                  13 Welcome, Donna.                  14 DONNA: Thank you. Good evening. Senate                  15 Bill 275, Maryland's Time to Care Act, was                  16 passed in 2022, establishing up to 12 weeks of                  17 paid family and medical leave.                  18 Tonight we are asking for signatures on a                  19 letter of intent and memorandum of agreement to                  20 join the Maryland Association of Boards of                  21 Education and the Maryland Association of</p>

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<p>1 Counties collaborative to get the most 2 competitive pricing and coordinate proper 3 administration of this act. 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. 5 MR. LESHER: And so this would, this State 6 law will allow our employees, they're already 7 entitled to keep their jobs for that time, but 8 this means that they'll actually get paid in 9 the interim. 10 DONNA: Correct. If they -- if 11 eligibility is determined, yes. 12 MR. LESHER: And the eligibility begins, 13 when is it again? 14 DONNA: So an employee has to work 680 15 hours from the time, a year from the time of 16 the leave, that the leave begins. But it 17 doesn't have to be just for one employer. It 18 can be for any employer in Maryland. But it 19 has to be 680 hours prior to the leave date. 20 MR. LESHER: And this benefit begins in 21 2026?</p>	<p>1 become eligible. We don't have to do this in 2 advance, which we would have had to do if we 3 were under the default State. 4 DONNA: Correct. We would have had to 5 start paying, contributing 15 months before the 6 benefits applies. 7 MS. HAYTHE: Yeah. 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right. That 9 being said, is there a motion? 10 MR. LESHER: I'll move for the letter of 11 intent. 12 MS. MIELKE: Second. 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Madam Secretary, we 14 got a motion and second for a letter of intent. 15 Could you call the vote, please. 16 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Callahan. 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye. 18 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Stepp. 19 MR. STEPP: Aye. 20 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Leshner. 21 MR. LESHER: Aye.</p>
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<p>1 DONNA: Correct. January 1, 2026. 2 MR. STAMP: So it is important to note, I 3 think Keasha can probably echo this, we did 4 determine that the majority of all counties in 5 Maryland are becoming signatories with the 6 Maryland Association of Counties to collaborate 7 to try to get the best pricing of all. 8 I mean this is a significant mandate that 9 is being passed by the General Assembly onto 10 county governments and others. 11 MS. HAYTHE: And this is the most 12 effective way, yeah, for us to participate. 13 The other way would just be too expensive 14 for us and to the taxpayers. So this is the 15 most cost-efficient way for us to participate 16 and lessen the burden for us. 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Right. Okay. 18 MR. LESHER: Well, and importantly, we 19 don't have to start paying into this system. 20 MS. HAYTHE: Yes. 21 MR. LESHER: Until our employees actually</p>	<p>1 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Mielke. 2 MS. MIELKE: Aye. 3 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Haythe. 4 MS. HAYTHE: Aye. 5 MR. STAMP: Thank you, Donna. 6 DONNA: Thank you. 7 MS. HAYTHE: Thanks, Donna. 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you. 9 MR. LESHER: And Council, that completes 10 your county manager report for this evening. 11 Thank you for your support. 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you. Good 13 job. 14 Next on the agenda is public comment. I 15 didn't know. We don't have? Okay. Does 16 anybody like to come up? Sorry. I know you 17 want to come up here. All right. 18 Lastly is Council comments. Who wants to 19 start? Anybody? Mr. Stepp. 20 MR. STEPP: Just it was great to see a 21 successful waterfowl this past weekend.</p>



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1 Coming into the holiday season here, we've  
 2 got Thanksgiving just around the corner. It  
 3 will happen before our next Council meeting.  
 4 So just wanted to wish the county a very happy  
 5 Thanksgiving. Please enjoy your time with  
 6 friends and loved ones.  
 7 And if you're deep frying your turkey,  
 8 please make sure it's thawed out before putting  
 9 it in the hot oil. So word to the wise, keep  
 10 our EMS folks with their families as well.  
 11 MR. LESHER: I have nothing further.  
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup, yup.  
 13 MS. MIELKE: I just have an announcement.  
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. Sure.  
 15 MS. MIELKE: About the Opioid Operational  
 16 Command Center, Maryland's primary opioid  
 17 response coordinating office, is hosting a town  
 18 hall on November 16th at the Talbot County Free  
 19 Library.  
 20 The Community Overdose Action Town Hall  
 21 aims to provide the community with the

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1 opportunity to share their ideas for how we can  
 2 do more to address the opioid and overdose  
 3 crisis.  
 4 The meeting will include several  
 5 presentations, including from our Sheriff, Joe  
 6 Gamble. Included topics are the importance of  
 7 community participation in addressing the  
 8 opioid crisis, care, recovery services  
 9 availability within the county and racial  
 10 disparities of overdose outcomes.  
 11 The doors will open at six p.m. and  
 12 presentations begin at 6:30. The town hall is  
 13 open to the public, with time being reserved  
 14 for questions and comments for individuals who  
 15 register for the event.  
 16 Please attend. It's important to our  
 17 community.  
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Good. Good job.  
 19 MS. HAYTHE: No comments. Just wish  
 20 everyone a Happy Thanksgiving next week. Enjoy  
 21 time with your family and friends.

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1 And if you have the ability to donate to  
 2 any of the Thanksgiving drives, please do so  
 3 because we have people in our community that  
 4 don't have the ability to provide the foods  
 5 necessary to celebrate Thanksgiving like we do.  
 6 So we're truly blessed.  
 7 MR. CALLAHAN: Just follow up with that,  
 8 too. I want to wish everybody a Happy  
 9 Thanksgiving.  
 10 And like Mr. Stepp said, we take the  
 11 Waterfowl Festival for granted every year. And  
 12 it was a beautiful weekend. That's for sure.  
 13 And I'm glad that it went very well. So we all  
 14 enjoyed it, and that's really something that  
 15 people throughout the United States come to.  
 16 So we're blessed to have something like that  
 17 here.  
 18 So other than that, Mr. Leshner, you want  
 19 to go ahead.  
 20 MR. LESHER: The County Council's next  
 21 meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 28th,

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1 beginning at six o'clock p.m. The Council will  
 2 be convening in open session at 4:30 p.m. and  
 3 then adjourning into closing session, as listed  
 4 on the statement for closing that meeting.  
 5 On Monday, November 20th, at  
 6 four o'clock p.m., the County Council will be  
 7 meeting with the Planning Commission to discuss  
 8 legislation concerning Talbot County's  
 9 comprehensive water and sewer plan and the  
 10 Lakeside project. The meeting is open to the  
 11 public and will be held here in the Bradley  
 12 Meeting Room.  
 13 Therefore, is there a motion to adjourn  
 14 this meeting and reconvene as noted?  
 15 MS. HAYTHE: So moved.  
 16 MR. STEPP: Second.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and  
 18 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the  
 19 vote.  
 20 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Callahan.  
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.

1 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Stepp.  
 2 MR. STEPP: Aye.  
 3 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Leshner.  
 4 MR. LESHER: Aye.  
 5 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Mielke.  
 6 MS. MIELKE: Aye.  
 7 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Haythe.  
 8 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.  
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That's it. Thanks  
 10 for coming.  
 11 (Meeting concluded at: 6:52 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF MARYLAND  
 2 I, Diane Houlihan, a Notary Public in and  
 for the State of Maryland, County of Baltimore City,  
 3 do hereby certify that the within named, Talbot  
 County Council Audio, personally appeared before me  
 4 at the time and place herein set according to law,  
 was interrogated by counsel.

5  
 I further certify that the examination was  
 6 recorded stenographically by me and then transcribed  
 from my stenographic notes to the within printed  
 7 matter by means of computer-assisted transcription  
 in a true and accurate manner.

8  
 I further certify that the stipulations  
 9 contained herein were entered into by counsel in my  
 presence.

10  
 I further certify that I am not of counsel  
 11 to any of the parties, not an employee of counsel,  
 nor related to any of the parties, nor in any way  
 12 interested in the outcome of this action.

13 AS WITNESS my hand Notarial Seal this 20th  
 day of October, 2023 at Foston, MD



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 Diane Houlihan  
 Notary Public

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 19 My commission expires September 16, 2025

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