

COUNTY COUNCIL OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Council Meeting

September 23, 2025; 5:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, Easton, Maryland

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Chuck F. Callahan

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. I want to welcome</p> <p>4 everybody. If everybody could please stand for</p> <p>5 the Pledge of Allegiance of the Flag and the</p> <p>6 prayer, please.</p> <p>7 (Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.)</p> <p>8 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Appreciate everybody</p> <p>9 showing up tonight. Okay.</p> <p>10 Getting started on the agenda, the agenda</p> <p>11 is before us. Is there any additions,</p> <p>12 deletions, or corrections to the agenda,</p> <p>13 Council?</p> <p>14 MS. HAYTHE: No.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Hearing none, the</p> <p>16 chair moves that the agenda be accepted as</p> <p>17 unanimous consent.</p> <p>18 Next on the agenda is the disbursements of</p> <p>19 September 16th and the 23rd. We've had a</p> <p>20 chance to take a look at it. Is there any</p> <p>21 additions, deletions, or corrections to the</p>	<p>1 And whereas, in Maryland, 608 residents</p> <p>2 died by suicide in 2022, a rate of one suicide</p> <p>3 death for every 10,000 residents, which</p> <p>4 represents more deaths each year than from</p> <p>5 homicides.</p> <p>6 And whereas, in Talbot County, the reality</p> <p>7 is urgent. 16.8 percent of middle school</p> <p>8 students and 17.2 percent of high school</p> <p>9 students report having seriously considered</p> <p>10 suicide, a concerning reminder that this crisis</p> <p>11 is present in our community.</p> <p>12 And whereas, too many individuals at risk</p> <p>13 never receive the care they need due to</p> <p>14 barriers, such as limited access to trained</p> <p>15 providers, long wait times, and the stigma</p> <p>16 still surrounding mental health treatment.</p> <p>17 Now, therefore, we, the County Council of</p> <p>18 Talbot County, do hereby urge all Talbot County</p> <p>19 citizens to recognize suicide as a significant</p> <p>20 public health risk, declare suicide prevention</p> <p>21 and mental health support as a priority, and</p>
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<p>1 disbursements, Council?</p> <p>2 MS. MIELKE: No.</p> <p>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Hearing none, the</p> <p>4 chair moves that the disbursements be accepted</p> <p>5 as unanimous consent.</p> <p>6 Okay. First on the agenda tonight is a</p> <p>7 proclamation, Suicide Prevention Month. Madam</p> <p>8 Secretary, would you please read that into the</p> <p>9 record, please.</p> <p>10 SECRETARY: Proclamation, No Matter What,</p> <p>11 You Matter, Suicide Prevention Month.</p> <p>12 Whereas, in 2023, nearly 49,300 Americans</p> <p>13 died by suicide, a prevalence not seen since</p> <p>14 the early 1940s, with an average of one life</p> <p>15 lost every 11 minutes.</p> <p>16 And whereas, across the country, five and</p> <p>17 a half percent of adults reported serious</p> <p>18 suicidal thoughts, and more than 42 percent of</p> <p>19 US adults personally know someone who has died</p> <p>20 by suicide, demonstrating the far-reaching</p> <p>21 impact of this public health crisis.</p>	<p>1 support the development and availability of</p> <p>2 accessible behavioral health services for all</p> <p>3 residents so that no one is left without hope</p> <p>4 or help.</p> <p>5 Now, therefore, we, the County Council of</p> <p>6 Talbot County, do hereby declare the month of</p> <p>7 September 2025 as No Matter What, You Matter,</p> <p>8 Suicide Prevention Month in Talbot County and</p> <p>9 urge every resident to take action and check in</p> <p>10 on the people around them because even a simple</p> <p>11 conversation can save a life.</p> <p>12 Given under our hands in the great seal of</p> <p>13 Talbot County this 23rd day of September in the</p> <p>14 year of our Lord, 2025.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Madam Secretary.</p> <p>16 Is there a motion?</p> <p>17 MR. STEPP: So moved.</p> <p>18 MS. MIELKE: Second.</p> <p>19 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. There's a motion and</p> <p>20 second to present into the record. Madam</p> <p>21 Secretary, could you call the vote.</p>

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<p>1 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>3 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>4 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>5 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.</p> <p>6 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>7 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>8 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Beth Anne, you want</p> <p>10 to come on up, you guys.</p> <p>11 MS. SEIP: Do we stand, sit?</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: You can sit.</p> <p>13 MS. SEIP: Genuflect? What shall we do?</p> <p>14 MR. CALLAHAN: You can sit down if you'd</p> <p>15 like. Introduce yourselves. Welcome.</p> <p>16 MS. SEIP: Thank you.</p> <p>17 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah.</p> <p>18 MS. SEIP: County Council, I'm Alexa Seip,</p> <p>19 vice chair of the Board of Trustees of For All</p> <p>20 Seasons.</p> <p>21 My colleague, Sharon Pepukayi, as you well</p>	<p>1 This message of No Matter What, You Matter</p> <p>2 is a reminder that every single person has</p> <p>3 value and that connection, compassion, and</p> <p>4 support can save lives.</p> <p>5 We encourage everyone to check in with the</p> <p>6 people around you and ask how they are truly</p> <p>7 doing. Listen with compassion and without</p> <p>8 judgment and connect them to support when it's</p> <p>9 needed. A simple conversation can make all the</p> <p>10 difference.</p> <p>11 Feel free to visit our website,</p> <p>12 forallseasonsinc.org or call (410)822-1018.</p> <p>13 And you will have open access to care and the</p> <p>14 therapy that each and every citizen of Talbot</p> <p>15 County deserves. Thank you.</p> <p>16 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.</p> <p>17 DR. PEPUKAYI: I just want to chime in</p> <p>18 just being on the board --</p> <p>19 MR. CALLAHAN: Could you introduce</p> <p>20 yourself.</p> <p>21 DR. PEPUKAYI: Yes. I'm sorry. Sharon</p>
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<p>1 know, the superintendent of Talbot Public</p> <p>2 Schools and is also on our Board of Trustees.</p> <p>3 Thank you for this proclamation. And it</p> <p>4 seem that September is a month for many things.</p> <p>5 And suicide prevention being one.</p> <p>6 For All Seasons is your community</p> <p>7 behavioral health and crisis center, rape</p> <p>8 crisis center. We provide therapy, psychiatry,</p> <p>9 victim and crisis support, education and</p> <p>10 outreach to the community. We offer them</p> <p>11 services regardless of anyone's ability to pay</p> <p>12 or the language that they speak.</p> <p>13 With seven offices throughout the midshore</p> <p>14 and telehealth services available statewide, we</p> <p>15 are committed to ensuring access to care.</p> <p>16 Through our open access program, anyone can</p> <p>17 walk in during select hours and meet with a</p> <p>18 therapist the very same day.</p> <p>19 Suicide is a critical public health issue</p> <p>20 that impacts our families, schools, workplaces,</p> <p>21 and communities.</p>	<p>1 Pepukayi, superintendent of schools, but also</p> <p>2 on the board going on my second year.</p> <p>3 So I've learned a lot. And in the school</p> <p>4 system, a lot of times the focus is on the</p> <p>5 students. But there are a lot of adults in the</p> <p>6 system that also need help and need care.</p> <p>7 And so I find myself when we pass one</p> <p>8 another and we say how are you doing and</p> <p>9 someone says okay, I stop sometimes now and say</p> <p>10 are you really okay or are you just telling me</p> <p>11 that. And oftentimes, I get a lot of stories</p> <p>12 of people, what's going on with themselves,</p> <p>13 their family members.</p> <p>14 And so just from learning a lot about the</p> <p>15 care that's right here, the availability of</p> <p>16 helping our citizens, our friends, I've learned</p> <p>17 a lot. And so taking more time to have</p> <p>18 conversations with people instead of the</p> <p>19 blanket how are you doing and you're still</p> <p>20 going on about your business.</p> <p>21 So thank you.</p>

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<p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you, guys.</p> <p>2 Okay. Council.</p> <p>3 No. You can stay here. Yup. Don't go</p> <p>4 nowhere.</p> <p>5 MS. HAYTHE: Is Beth Anne going to say</p> <p>6 anything?</p> <p>7 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. Beth Anne, would you</p> <p>8 like to say a few words?</p> <p>9 MS. DORMAN: Hi. Beth Anne Dorman, CEO of</p> <p>10 For All Seasons. It's so good to see all of</p> <p>11 you again.</p> <p>12 And just thank you for once again</p> <p>13 recognizing the No Matter What, You Matter</p> <p>14 campaign.</p> <p>15 I do want to just bring to light that our</p> <p>16 real focus this year is I'm fine is not the end</p> <p>17 of the story. And, you know, to what</p> <p>18 Dr. Pepukayi said about how are you doing, I'm</p> <p>19 okay, are you really.</p> <p>20 We really often hear people say I'm fine.</p> <p>21 And we know that when we dig a little bit</p>	<p>1 it all matters.</p> <p>2 And so just to be able to bring the</p> <p>3 reminder that when we hear I'm fine, my</p> <p>4 invitation to everyone here and everyone</p> <p>5 watching and listening is just send a text,</p> <p>6 check in on someone, pick up the phone, send an</p> <p>7 email, just say I'm thinking of you. Even if</p> <p>8 you think everything is fine, it's amazing what</p> <p>9 we might find out when we just check in.</p> <p>10 MR. CALLAHAN: Well, thank you.</p> <p>11 MS. SEIP: And I'd also like to thank the</p> <p>12 Council for all the support that you have given</p> <p>13 For All Seasons these past few years. It has</p> <p>14 been remarkably impactful. Thank you.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.</p> <p>16 Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>17 MR. STEPP: As always, it's a pleasure to</p> <p>18 have you guys in to do this.</p> <p>19 Beth Anne, I really do like the last point</p> <p>20 you just made there about this isn't just a</p> <p>21 month thing. Right? We have a lot of things</p>
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<p>1 deeper and we can create trusted circles of</p> <p>2 conversation, that makes the difference.</p> <p>3 And I know we've all had conversations</p> <p>4 over the years about how suicide has touched</p> <p>5 our lives personally. And just my hope is that</p> <p>6 this isn't just a September campaign. My hope</p> <p>7 that this is a reminder all the time that when</p> <p>8 you hear someone say I'm fine, if we just take</p> <p>9 a couple extra seconds to be able to have a</p> <p>10 conversation, so much more can be revealed.</p> <p>11 And Mr. Stamp and I were having a</p> <p>12 conversation last week about how we connected</p> <p>13 during COVID. And we talked about, you know,</p> <p>14 it's day, I think we were on like day 42 at</p> <p>15 that point. And we really have to pay</p> <p>16 attention that we are still in a time where</p> <p>17 people are getting back into what normal,</p> <p>18 quote, unquote, looks like.</p> <p>19 And really there are people that are still</p> <p>20 working through really massive things. And</p> <p>21 even if we're just dealing with small things,</p>	<p>1 that we celebrate a day, a week, a year, or a</p> <p>2 month. It should be 24/7/365, like you</p> <p>3 mentioned.</p> <p>4 So y'all do important work. We appreciate</p> <p>5 it. And it's a pleasure to do this again.</p> <p>6 Thank you.</p> <p>7 MS. DORMAN: Thank you.</p> <p>8 MS. MIELKE: I'd just like to say I'm very</p> <p>9 proud with what you do. You've been on top of</p> <p>10 this issue since it's been developing, because</p> <p>11 it's been a societal issue for a while and you</p> <p>12 seem to be one step ahead of it. And we really</p> <p>13 benefit from that.</p> <p>14 So thank you very much.</p> <p>15 MS. DORMAN: Thanks, Lynn. That means a</p> <p>16 lot.</p> <p>17 MS. HAYTHE: So thank you for coming in</p> <p>18 and bringing this to our attention again, as</p> <p>19 you always do.</p> <p>20 You do great work there at For All</p> <p>21 Seasons. And know that, you know, we're here</p>

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<p>1 to cheer you on for all the work that you do</p> <p>2 and the lives that you help in the community.</p> <p>3 But I have one question for you. Have you</p> <p>4 seen any difference as it relates to suicide</p> <p>5 regarding AI?</p> <p>6 So I read an article of a young man who</p> <p>7 committed suicide. I think he was about 16</p> <p>8 years old. Truly broke my heart. Where he</p> <p>9 went on IA and AI instructed him how to commit</p> <p>10 suicide.</p> <p>11 So anything relating to AI and suicide?</p> <p>12 I do see that they have warnings now as it</p> <p>13 relates to AI and they do put up the warning</p> <p>14 about suicide prevention.</p> <p>15 But have you seen anything in regards to</p> <p>16 that or are you doing any type of particular</p> <p>17 outreach or is there a need to do outreach for</p> <p>18 that?</p> <p>19 MS. DORMAN: There absolutely is a need.</p> <p>20 And we are in conversation about</p> <p>21 developing -- I actually just had a</p>	<p>1 are more isolated or who are not comfortable</p> <p>2 having a conversation, our children have spent</p> <p>3 so much more time on screens than we did as</p> <p>4 adults. And it's safer. AI is not going to</p> <p>5 argue back with you.</p> <p>6 MS. HAYTHE: Right.</p> <p>7 MS. DORMAN: There is pathways where you</p> <p>8 can feel comforted, you can find purpose. And</p> <p>9 so what we really want to start to do is have</p> <p>10 the conversation about how AI is showing up,</p> <p>11 where it's really great.</p> <p>12 Sometimes, you know, we joke at our office</p> <p>13 that our chat GPT is helpful when we're trying</p> <p>14 to figure out something simple. But when we're</p> <p>15 talking about human lives, AI can't be the</p> <p>16 answer. And that's the next thing that we are</p> <p>17 really digging into.</p> <p>18 We work with a wonderful national expert</p> <p>19 whose name is Dr. Jeff Thompson, who has come</p> <p>20 to the community time and again for us. He'll</p> <p>21 be here again in October to train all of our</p>
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<p>1 conversation with Dave Wheeler at the Talbot</p> <p>2 Spy about this very thing.</p> <p>3 If you look at the Harvard Business</p> <p>4 Review, in 2024 AI was used primarily to find</p> <p>5 information. If you look at 2025, the number</p> <p>6 one hit is therapy. The number two hit is</p> <p>7 purpose. And that's what we are seeing in</p> <p>8 terms of AI use.</p> <p>9 There have been countless articles. The</p> <p>10 New York Times had an article about a young</p> <p>11 child who committed suicide. The AI wrote the</p> <p>12 suicide note for this child.</p> <p>13 We have to be really mindful that AI is a</p> <p>14 tool. It's not a replacement for therapy.</p> <p>15 And that's one of the things that we are</p> <p>16 starting to dig into. Dave and I are going to</p> <p>17 be doing a story. We're in our research right</p> <p>18 now. But within the next couple of weeks, you</p> <p>19 will see that on the Talbot Spy because it</p> <p>20 absolutely has become -- you know, for kids</p> <p>21 especially, when you think about children who</p>	<p>1 first responder peer support program</p> <p>2 participants. And one of the things that we</p> <p>3 are going to be doing is developing an AI</p> <p>4 program that he can come back and give to the</p> <p>5 community. So please stay tuned.</p> <p>6 MS. HAYTHE: Good. Thank you.</p> <p>7 Oh, one more question. If I may.</p> <p>8 MR. CALLAHAN: Just one more.</p> <p>9 MS. HAYTHE: Yeah. One more, yeah.</p> <p>10 So have you seen any uptick as it relates</p> <p>11 to federal government layoffs or anything of</p> <p>12 that nature within our community, since we had</p> <p>13 a discussion on federal employment today?</p> <p>14 MS. DORMAN: You know, I'm not privy to</p> <p>15 what folks are walking in the door with once</p> <p>16 they're behind closed doors with our</p> <p>17 therapists.</p> <p>18 I can tell you that we have seen an uptick</p> <p>19 in adult clients that are seeking financial</p> <p>20 support. One could conclude that part of that</p> <p>21 is folks who are losing their job and/or losing</p>

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<p>1 insurance.</p> <p>2 But to answer real plainly, I can't give</p> <p>3 you that answer off the cuff.</p> <p>4 MS. HAYTHE: Okay.</p> <p>5 MS. DORMAN: But I can certainly follow up</p> <p>6 and get it to you.</p> <p>7 MS. HAYTHE: Okay. That would be great.</p> <p>8 Thanks.</p> <p>9 MR. CALLAHAN: Like I said, like we've</p> <p>10 said up here, thanks so much. You three ladies</p> <p>11 are so important to Talbot County. And we're</p> <p>12 just so blessed to have your services, your</p> <p>13 commitment. And I really appreciate you</p> <p>14 helping the community with us. And thanks so</p> <p>15 much.</p> <p>16 MS. DORMAN: Absolutely.</p> <p>17 MR. CALLAHAN: So come on up. We got</p> <p>18 something for you.</p> <p>19 MS. DORMAN: Thank you.</p> <p>20 MS. KILMON: All right. Ready? One, two,</p> <p>21 three. Perfect.</p>	<p>1 autoimmune disease which causes uncontrollable</p> <p>2 hair loss, creates feelings of isolation, and</p> <p>3 increases the risk of depression and self harm.</p> <p>4 And whereas, NAAF is the largest nonprofit</p> <p>5 funder of alopecia areata research, advocacy,</p> <p>6 and community support in the world, with a</p> <p>7 40-plus-year legacy of initiating meaningful</p> <p>8 change.</p> <p>9 And whereas, NAAF continues building a</p> <p>10 community that is empowered with more choices</p> <p>11 with driving research to advance treatments and</p> <p>12 to find a cure.</p> <p>13 And whereas, NAAF's third annual Walk for</p> <p>14 Alopecia is the finale of Alopecia Areata</p> <p>15 Awareness Month, once again bringing the</p> <p>16 alopecia areata community of families,</p> <p>17 caregivers, friends, coworkers, and health care</p> <p>18 professionals together to help urge research</p> <p>19 for better treatments and a cure, increase</p> <p>20 support, advocate for change, and end the</p> <p>21 stigma associated with this life-changing</p>
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<p>1 CONNER: Okay. One more. Thank you.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>3 MS. SEIP: Thank you. Hi, Clay.</p> <p>4 MS. DORMAN: I just knocked you off, Lynn.</p> <p>5 Hold, please.</p> <p>6 MR. CALLAHAN: It's okay. It happens all</p> <p>7 the time.</p> <p>8 MS. DORMAN: Got you back together.</p> <p>9 MR. CALLAHAN: So really appreciate that.</p> <p>10 Next on the agenda, help me, Keasha, on</p> <p>11 this one here, the al.</p> <p>12 MS. HAYTHE: Alopecia Awareness Month.</p> <p>13 MR. CALLAHAN: There you go. That's what</p> <p>14 we got.</p> <p>15 Madam Secretary, could you go ahead and</p> <p>16 put that into the record for us, please.</p> <p>17 SECRETARY: Proclamation, Alopecia</p> <p>18 Awareness Month, September 2025.</p> <p>19 Whereas, the National Alopecia Areata</p> <p>20 Foundation, NAAF, serves nearly the 7 million</p> <p>21 Americans affected by alopecia areata, an</p>	<p>1 condition.</p> <p>2 Now, therefore, we, the County Council of</p> <p>3 Talbot County, do hereby proclaim</p> <p>4 September 2025 as Alopecia Awareness Month and</p> <p>5 Saturday, September 27, 2025, as Easton Walk</p> <p>6 for Alopecia Day in Talbot County and encourage</p> <p>7 all community members, whether or not</p> <p>8 personally affected by alopecia areata, to</p> <p>9 support and participate in this annual walk.</p> <p>10 Given under our hands in the great seal of</p> <p>11 Talbot County this 23rd day of September in the</p> <p>12 year of our Lord, 2025.</p> <p>13 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Madam Secretary.</p> <p>14 Appreciate it.</p> <p>15 Do I have a motion?</p> <p>16 MS. HAYTHE: So moved.</p> <p>17 MR. STEPP: Second.</p> <p>18 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and</p> <p>19 second to go ahead and put it into the record.</p> <p>20 Madam Secretary, could you call the vote.</p> <p>21 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p>

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<p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>2 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>3 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>4 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.</p> <p>5 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>6 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>7 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>8 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Welcome, Doctor.</p> <p>9 DR. MEWBORN: Dr. Annie Mewborn. I am the</p> <p>10 group site leader for the Eastern Shore</p> <p>11 Alopecia Areata Foundation, support group here</p> <p>12 on the Eastern Shore. And I'm also the walk</p> <p>13 site coordinator for Walk for Alopecia that</p> <p>14 will be hosted this Saturday at Idlewild Park.</p> <p>15 So first let me start by saying thank you</p> <p>16 to Councilwoman Keasha Haythe as well as the</p> <p>17 Talbot County Council for sponsoring and</p> <p>18 recognizing September as Alopecia Awareness</p> <p>19 Month. Your (indiscernible) means so much to</p> <p>20 those of us living with this condition. And it</p> <p>21 shines a light on often invisible struggle.</p>	<p>1 from 9:30 to 11 at Idlewild Park, we will host</p> <p>2 the Eastern Shore's first inaugural walk here</p> <p>3 for alopecia. This walk is about raising</p> <p>4 awareness, bringing families together, and</p> <p>5 standing proudly in solidarity with those</p> <p>6 affected.</p> <p>7 It is also about raising funds to support</p> <p>8 NAAF's critical mission. And it is our hope</p> <p>9 that this recognition inspires more compassion</p> <p>10 and more conversation.</p> <p>11 And I invite everyone in this room and out</p> <p>12 in the public to join us at Idlewild Park and</p> <p>13 to learn and to support.</p> <p>14 Together we can ensure that no one is</p> <p>15 facing alopecia and they're feeling unseen and</p> <p>16 unheard because it is not just about hair.</p> <p>17 Let's do something about alopecia. Thank you</p> <p>18 very much.</p> <p>19 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you.</p> <p>20 Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>21 MR. STEPP: I'll stay within the thanks</p>
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<p>1 The National Alopecia Areata Foundation,</p> <p>2 or NAAF, leads the fight to improve the lives</p> <p>3 of people affected by alopecia areata. They</p> <p>4 provide education, support, and research</p> <p>5 funding for treatments, and one day hopefully,</p> <p>6 a cure.</p> <p>7 This mission reminds us that hair loss is</p> <p>8 not just cosmetic. It impacts emotional</p> <p>9 health, self esteem, and daily life.</p> <p>10 Here on the Eastern Shore, we are proud to</p> <p>11 have this dedicated alopecia areata support</p> <p>12 group, and it is virtual. We provide a safe</p> <p>13 space for children, adults, and families to</p> <p>14 share their stories, connect with resources,</p> <p>15 and most importantly, realize that they are not</p> <p>16 invisible and they're not alone. Together we</p> <p>17 are breaking down stigma and building</p> <p>18 confidence.</p> <p>19 This proclamation also connects directly</p> <p>20 to our community outreach.</p> <p>21 Again, on September 27th, this Saturday,</p>	<p>1 vain here.</p> <p>2 Number one, appreciate you being here.</p> <p>3 But I really appreciate especially what you</p> <p>4 just said, what's written in the proclamation</p> <p>5 here about the visible versus the invisible.</p> <p>6 Right? And focusing especially on and bringing</p> <p>7 to light what is not seen in regards to this.</p> <p>8 So thank you for bringing that to light.</p> <p>9 And again, appreciate you being here.</p> <p>10 MS. MIELKE: Thank you for taking on this</p> <p>11 cause. And I love your T-shirt, it's not just</p> <p>12 hair.</p> <p>13 MS. HAYTHE: Well, Dr. Mewborn, I thank</p> <p>14 you for bringing this to us. This is our first</p> <p>15 alopecia proclamation. Hopefully it will not</p> <p>16 be our last.</p> <p>17 And I truly appreciate supporting this</p> <p>18 effort.</p> <p>19 Now, I will not be able to be at the walk</p> <p>20 because of Frederick Douglass Day</p> <p>21 unfortunately, but I will be there and sending</p>

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<p>1 prayers for all that attend.</p> <p>2 So thank you so much.</p> <p>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. Like my colleagues</p> <p>4 said, appreciate you making us aware of this.</p> <p>5 And really appreciate the first time. Let's</p> <p>6 make this an annual thing for you and make</p> <p>7 people aware of this. That's for sure.</p> <p>8 So come on up.</p> <p>9 MS. KILMON: You guys are matching.</p> <p>10 MS. HAYTHE: Trying to hold on to summer.</p> <p>11 MS. KILMON: I love it. Ready? One, two,</p> <p>12 three. All right.</p> <p>13 DR. MEWBORN: Thank you.</p> <p>14 CONNER: Thank you.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Next on the agenda</p> <p>16 would be an update for the Talbot County Food</p> <p>17 Pantry Committee Resource Expo.</p> <p>18 MS. HAYTHE: Catherine Poe.</p> <p>19 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes, ma'am. Come on up.</p> <p>20 MS. POE: Good evening.</p> <p>21 MR. CALLAHAN: Good evening. How are you?</p>	<p>1 MS. POE: Just plunged right in.</p> <p>2 I'm Catherine Poe. I'm on the Steering</p> <p>3 Committee. And I'll be introducing some of the</p> <p>4 others who are here tonight.</p> <p>5 MR. CALLAHAN: Sure, sure.</p> <p>6 MS. POE: For Resource Day. And I'm also</p> <p>7 the chair of the Talbot County Hunger</p> <p>8 Coalition, which is nine food pantries and</p> <p>9 three meal providers.</p> <p>10 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.</p> <p>11 MS. POE: But tonight my hat is the</p> <p>12 Resource Day.</p> <p>13 For those who don't know, Resource Day is</p> <p>14 basically one stop shopping for our neighbors</p> <p>15 in need. It offers them free dental screening,</p> <p>16 heating assistance, health screening, free</p> <p>17 children's books, free home repairs, free legal</p> <p>18 aid, and help for veterans. And that's only</p> <p>19 some of the 50, that's 50, nonprofit</p> <p>20 organizations and agencies that will be on hand</p> <p>21 to make a difference.</p>
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<p>1 MS. POE: I had one for you, too. Thank</p> <p>2 you.</p> <p>3 MR. STAMP: Sure.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: We want to welcome you. If</p> <p>5 you want to introduce yourself, that would be</p> <p>6 great.</p> <p>7 MS. POE: All right. Well, good evening,</p> <p>8 Council Members. I'm here this evening</p> <p>9 representing the people and the organizations</p> <p>10 that are hosting the Fourth Annual Resource</p> <p>11 Day. It's going to be held Saturday, October</p> <p>12 18th, at Easton Elementary School. And it runs</p> <p>13 from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.</p> <p>14 Resource Day, to remind you.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: Could you introduce</p> <p>16 yourself, please.</p> <p>17 MS. POE: I'm sorry?</p> <p>18 MR. CALLAHAN: Could you introduce</p> <p>19 yourself so people know you.</p> <p>20 MS. POE: Oh, I beg your pardon.</p> <p>21 MR. CALLAHAN: That's okay. That's okay.</p>	<p>1 I bet you didn't even know we had 50</p> <p>2 nonprofit organizations. We really have a lot.</p> <p>3 And the thing is people don't know they are</p> <p>4 there and the help they can get.</p> <p>5 We will also have a special playtime for</p> <p>6 the kids, a bike rodeo that we did last year</p> <p>7 that's going to be done again. Free groceries</p> <p>8 will be given out as well as personal items and</p> <p>9 paper goods.</p> <p>10 Plus, everyone, vendors, volunteers, and</p> <p>11 people coming through our doors, will also have</p> <p>12 a free lunch provided by Sodexo and by</p> <p>13 St. Michaels Community Center's kitchen. And</p> <p>14 plus that day we will also have Spanish</p> <p>15 interpreters on hand.</p> <p>16 I want to add a big thanks at this point</p> <p>17 to the county and Clay Stamp for allowing the</p> <p>18 Delmarva Community transit bus to be added to</p> <p>19 Resource Day. This is the first year. Because</p> <p>20 I've always been worried that only people can</p> <p>21 get there if they walk or if they drive a car.</p>

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<p>1 But I see so many people who use that transit 2 that could definitely use being at Resource 3 Day. 4 So thanks to Clay and working with Henry 5 Teets, who is the head of the bus system, we 6 have set it up that they are going to add us to 7 the schedule on Resource Day. And there will 8 be two dropoffs at Easton Elementary and two 9 pickups. So that's a big thank you to Clay and 10 to the Council. I appreciate it. 11 There's a reason, all right, such a day is 12 urgently needed. And a look at our statistics 13 are going to show you. I don't use that word 14 urgently lightly. 15 First of all, this first statistic comes 16 from Feeding America. For those of you who 17 don't know, Feeding America is the umbrella 18 group of all the food banks in the United 19 States. 20 And they target our county, as they target 21 all counties. And 11 percent of our residents</p>	<p>1 you see the number? It says how many people 2 are on SNAP. All right. And it says 3,733 3 adults. That's total number, not just adults. 4 I'm sorry. 5 So that should say 3,733 total. Of that 6 total, 1,430 are children. All right. That's 7 from our own Department of Social Services here 8 in the county. 9 Each week, all right, our nine food 10 pantries and our three meal providers serve 11 nearly 3,000 people every week. That's 12,000 12 a month. That's 144,000 people a year. 13 And you should understand our pantries are 14 all over the county. Down to Tilghman out to 15 Trappe. And a lot of people are shocked. We 16 have one out at Chesapeake College, all right, 17 called Corner of Care. All right. 18 At this point, I would like to give a 19 shout out, by the way. I'm skipping a part. 20 We got to talk about money. 21 The cost for the larger food pantries that</p>
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<p>1 are truly insecure, 15 percent of our children 2 are. 3 That means people are having to skip meals 4 because they can't afford them. Sometimes one 5 meal, sometimes two. Sometimes adults skip a 6 meal so the kids have meals. 7 Let's look at SNAP. People who don't know 8 what SNAP is, it's what people used to call 9 food stamps. 10 By the way, SNAP payments are pretty low. 11 I mean it gets such a bad wrap, which is 12 ridiculous. 13 First of all, there already was a work 14 requirement. I'd like to point that out. 15 People already between 18 and 62 had to work or 16 be in training or taking a college course 17 already before anything else was added to it. 18 I do want to make a correction, though. 19 And Allie will shoot me if I don't make this 20 correction. I just found it as I was before. 21 So I couldn't change it on yours. And I had --</p>	<p>1 serve -- and by the way, these larger food 2 pantries are serving several hundred a week. 3 It ranges from 8,000 to 10,000 a month. Just 4 multiply that times 12 months. They are 5 raising it through their congregations or 6 fundraisers. 7 And one of the big sources that was 8 helpful this year was Empty Bowls, which is 9 held in February. And they only raise money 10 for the food pantries. And they raised 42,000 11 this year. That's the most they have ever 12 raised. And I would like to point out that 13 every single penny goes to the food pantries. 14 And I'd like to point out they have zero 15 overhead. Zero. All right. 16 Now, getting back to raw statistics. The 17 unemployment rate as of July, and this is from 18 the federal reserve, is 3.7 percent. That's 19 nearly full employment, as you know. The 20 national unemployment rate is 4.3. So we're 21 doing much better. So why do we have all these</p>

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<p>1 food pantries? Why do we need Resource Day?</p> <p>2 All right.</p> <p>3 You hear people saying pull yourself up by</p> <p>4 your, you know, bootstraps, get a job. What</p> <p>5 they don't understand is who we're all serving</p> <p>6 is the working poor and seniors. And this is</p> <p>7 who is coming through our food pantries, and</p> <p>8 this is why they need Resource Day.</p> <p>9 For instance, let me give you about</p> <p>10 minimum wage. Minimum wage is \$15 an hour.</p> <p>11 All right. That's great if you're a teenager</p> <p>12 scooping ice cream. Okay. Not so great if</p> <p>13 you're one of the others.</p> <p>14 For instance, people working for</p> <p>15 landscaping companies, retail workers, people</p> <p>16 who are caretakers. You'd be surprised.</p> <p>17 People who are actually in homes taking care of</p> <p>18 loved ones often making \$15 an hour.</p> <p>19 Now, let's tell you what kind of salary</p> <p>20 you're making on that. If you work, all right,</p> <p>21 a full year, never take a vacation, never have</p>	<p>1 And I'm just going to give you one</p> <p>2 example, which I had never known until I</p> <p>3 actually found out last year. Was that</p> <p>4 everybody knows that Habitat for Humanity</p> <p>5 builds houses. Did you know they repair</p> <p>6 houses? They will come and put in a ramp,</p> <p>7 reattach a porch. Whatever you need, they will</p> <p>8 do it. All right.</p> <p>9 There's also another great group that I</p> <p>10 then found out of learning about Habitat called</p> <p>11 Bay Hundred. And what they do is they go</p> <p>12 around and they repair homes of people -- you</p> <p>13 have to own your home. They don't do it for</p> <p>14 people who are renting. But if you own your</p> <p>15 own home.</p> <p>16 We have talked to people coming through</p> <p>17 out pantries and gotten them that kind of help</p> <p>18 through that. So that's the kind of help that</p> <p>19 is out there.</p> <p>20 But stop and think. If I'm not knowing</p> <p>21 this, can you imagine the general public not</p>
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<p>1 a sick day, you put in 2,080 hours a year full</p> <p>2 employment, you will earn \$31,000. That's all.</p> <p>3 What does it cost to live in this county?</p> <p>4 One person -- by the way, it's gone up since</p> <p>5 last year. One person, after taxes, 40,646.</p> <p>6 And if you'll see, this is from MIT's living</p> <p>7 wage calculator for this year. Family of four,</p> <p>8 with two working adults, 92,262 after taxes.</p> <p>9 See where that comes in, that 31,000.</p> <p>10 Let's take another statement. The</p> <p>11 seniors. 30 percent of the population in this</p> <p>12 county are seniors. All right. One in four</p> <p>13 seniors depends on Social Security for their</p> <p>14 income. The average Social Security check,</p> <p>15 \$2,008 a month. That's \$24,080 a year. Look</p> <p>16 at it again. 40,646 for a senior. That's</p> <p>17 tough. All right.</p> <p>18 And this is why something like Resource</p> <p>19 Day is needed. It helps our seniors and it</p> <p>20 helps the working poor. Many people in need do</p> <p>21 not realize the kind of help that's out there.</p>	<p>1 knowing this because I think I know everything</p> <p>2 and I don't, as it turns out. All right.</p> <p>3 But this Resource Day is a way to learn</p> <p>4 how to access and navigate the system. And I</p> <p>5 think most of you know if you've tried to ever</p> <p>6 navigate the system, you actually do need help.</p> <p>7 This Resource Day gives them that opportunity.</p> <p>8 Once again, it is spearheaded by</p> <p>9 Neighborhood Service Center, the Talbot Family</p> <p>10 Network, Talbot County Hunger Coalition,</p> <p>11 Choptank Electric, Easton Utilities, Talbot</p> <p>12 Public Schools, and the Department of Social</p> <p>13 Services.</p> <p>14 And we've been working since late spring.</p> <p>15 We always start in the spring beginning on</p> <p>16 this.</p> <p>17 And I would like to introduce a couple of</p> <p>18 people who are here tonight with us and</p> <p>19 recognize the kind of hard work they do. So</p> <p>20 I'm doing this alphabetically by last name.</p> <p>21 That's the best way to do it.</p>

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<p>1 So I'm going to start with Allie Burke.</p> <p>2 Would you stand so people can see? Allie,</p> <p>3 family investment supervisor from Department of</p> <p>4 Social Services. She's the one that give me</p> <p>5 the correction because I messed it up.</p> <p>6 Shalanda Collins, housing coordinator for</p> <p>7 Planning & Zoning. Thank you. And Scotti</p> <p>8 Oliver, assistant director, Talbot County</p> <p>9 Library. Brandy Ridgeway, MEAP senior intake</p> <p>10 representative.</p> <p>11 And if you don't know what MEAP is, like I</p> <p>12 didn't, she had to teach me, Maryland Energy</p> <p>13 Assistance Program. Thank you, Brandy.</p> <p>14 All right. And oh, Ann Horn.</p> <p>15 MS. HORN: Amy.</p> <p>16 MS. POE: Sorry. Amy Horne, executive</p> <p>17 director of SMSTC. And by the way, it's her</p> <p>18 kitchen that's making the lunches, which is</p> <p>19 great. So thank you.</p> <p>20 MS. HORNE: And we're helping with</p> <p>21 transportation, too.</p>	<p>1 MR. STEPP: I love your fact sheet. You</p> <p>2 always come armed with your facts. That I</p> <p>3 love.</p> <p>4 MS. POE: That I do have.</p> <p>5 MR. STEPP: I appreciate them. They are</p> <p>6 numbers to certainly be concerned about --</p> <p>7 MS. POE: They are; aren't they? I know.</p> <p>8 Yeah.</p> <p>9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>10 MS. MIELKE: Thank you for your</p> <p>11 presentation. It was very good.</p> <p>12 You've been a dedicated public servant for</p> <p>13 so many years. And it brought together this</p> <p>14 group, and it's fabulous. And we really need</p> <p>15 it. And I'm glad that the need was determined</p> <p>16 and that it is being fulfilled. It's great for</p> <p>17 our county. Thank you.</p> <p>18 MS. POE: Oh, you're welcome.</p> <p>19 MS. HAYTHE: Well, Catherine, you know you</p> <p>20 do so much for this community. You are truly a</p> <p>21 rock star.</p>
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<p>1 MS. POE: Yes. That's right. You're</p> <p>2 going to have the van.</p> <p>3 MS. HORNE: (Indiscernible.)</p> <p>4 MS. POE: Yeah. You're going to make two</p> <p>5 runs, right? Yes.</p> <p>6 And last but not least, and I say that</p> <p>7 with great affection because she's the momma</p> <p>8 bear and moving forward, Cardeaner Robinson, MEAP</p> <p>9 director of Neighborhood Service Center.</p> <p>10 I invite all of you on October 18th to</p> <p>11 drop by between ten and one and see Resource</p> <p>12 Day in action.</p> <p>13 If you have any questions now, I'm happy</p> <p>14 to answer them.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: Good job.</p> <p>16 Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>17 MR. STEPP: Yup. No questions. But just,</p> <p>18 again, thanks for doing this. It's always good</p> <p>19 to hear you.</p> <p>20 I love your fact sheet.</p> <p>21 MS. POE: You love what?</p>	<p>1 I think that this Resource Day is going to</p> <p>2 be amazing compared to the ones in the past,</p> <p>3 particularly with the partnership with Delmarva</p> <p>4 Community Services and the bus transportation.</p> <p>5 MS. POE: Right.</p> <p>6 MS. HAYTHE: I mean it's always a great</p> <p>7 event, but I think this is going to be even</p> <p>8 better because I think you're going to be able</p> <p>9 to get more people because of the</p> <p>10 transportation.</p> <p>11 MS. POE: That's what we want.</p> <p>12 MS. HAYTHE: Yeah. And so you always have</p> <p>13 this on the weekend of my birthday. So I don't</p> <p>14 know if I'll be there or not. But if I am in</p> <p>15 town and my husband doesn't do his job right,</p> <p>16 I'll be popping through and coming through.</p> <p>17 Of course, you know, I have family members</p> <p>18 that need this assistance and come every year.</p> <p>19 And you know the one I'm talking about. I'm</p> <p>20 not going to call her name publicly.</p> <p>21 But there is a need, and these statistics</p>

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<p>1 are great for us to have. And I love it when 2 you come in. 3 MS. POE: We thought you would appreciate 4 it. 5 MS. HAYTHE: I love it when you come in 6 and bring this and let us know where we are in 7 Talbot County because there is a need. 8 So thank you for all you do. Thank you 9 for your committee, everyone that's here with 10 her that's supporting her. 11 And I look forward to a great Resource Day 12 on October the 18th. 13 MS. POE: Thank you. 14 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you so much. Thank 15 you, committee, for all you guys do. 16 And it was just a pleasure last February 17 being at the Empty Bowl. 18 MS. POE: Oh, wasn't that great? 19 MR. CALLAHAN: I was there, and it was 20 really amazing. So really good job with 21 everybody that pitched in to do that. So</p>	<p>1 MR. SHAFER: Good, President Callahan. 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Good, good. 3 MR. SHAFER: Good evening. 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Good evening. 5 MR. SHAFER: Good evening, Members of the 6 Council and Staff. Thank you. 7 So once again, my favorite night of the 8 year. I am here to present this year's Capital 9 Improvement Plan for Talbot County Public 10 Schools. 11 And so I come before the Council to 12 request consideration of this submission to the 13 State. It is an annual State submission to the 14 IAC, the Interagency Commission for School 15 Construction. And basically it's the county's, 16 Talbot County Public Schools's request to the 17 State for funding for the related capital 18 improvements. 19 So this evening, very brief presentation 20 just to outline some excerpts from the actual 21 document, which you have the full document</p>
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<p>1 that's pretty special. 2 MS. POE: Yeah. 3 MR. CALLAHAN: That's for sure. 4 MS. POE: And the whole community pitched 5 in at restaurants. It was marvelous. 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. It was great. So 7 really appreciate that. And thank you, 8 everybody. 9 So being that's said, what do we need to 10 do? 11 MS. POE: There's no proclamation. No. I 12 just came to... 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. 14 MS. POE: Just to update you. Thank you. 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Next on the agenda, 16 my favorite man up here. Come on up. Come on 17 up, Kevin. Yeah, yup. He's something, he's 18 something. 19 He's going to give us an update on the 20 school and the Capital Improvement Plan. 21 So welcome, Kevin. How you doing?</p>	<p>1 electronically. 2 And this first slide is just an excerpt 3 from the 102C, which is a request for systemic 4 project funding. And this year's first and 5 only priority is the replacement of the Easton 6 Middle School roof. And you can barely see it. 7 But in pink there, we have a request from the 8 State for \$1,950,000 as their portion of the 9 roof replacement. 10 And this next slide provides a summary of 11 the estimated budget. So from right to left, 12 in blue, you'll see the current request from 13 the County Council for this roof replacement 14 would be 2.145 million from the State. Once 15 again, the 1,950,000. And total cost for the, 16 estimated total cost for the roof replacement 17 would be 4,095,000. 18 And then the final slide that I have for 19 you this evening is just a summary of future -- 20 of the current request that is priority number 21 one and then future requests as we currently</p>

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<p>1 see them coming in future fiscal years. And</p> <p>2 I'm not going to go through that whole list.</p> <p>3 It is a list that kind of evolves as we go.</p> <p>4 But ultimately, we are looking to do some</p> <p>5 HVAC replacements at various schools. A little</p> <p>6 more work at Easton Middle School.</p> <p>7 And then finally, just always like to draw</p> <p>8 attention to the eventual renovation of Easton</p> <p>9 High School, which would be the next school for</p> <p>10 renovation now. We do have some years for</p> <p>11 that, but there will be a planning process that</p> <p>12 will take a few years. So I just want to kind</p> <p>13 of keep that on the horizon and keep talking</p> <p>14 about it because it is going to be a heavy lift</p> <p>15 for the county once we eventually get there.</p> <p>16 So as I said, brief. But I can certainly</p> <p>17 try and answer any questions.</p> <p>18 Just to fully disclose, I am going to,</p> <p>19 just like in previous years, I would be</p> <p>20 requesting that the Council consider supporting</p> <p>21 the Easton Middle School Roof replacement</p>	<p>1 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>2 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>3 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.</p> <p>4 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>5 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>6 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>7 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Good job.</p> <p>8 MR. SHAFER: Very good. And just if you</p> <p>9 don't mind, very quickly I just want to give a</p> <p>10 very brief update on Chapel. And I know that</p> <p>11 on October 7th, we're going to have a joint</p> <p>12 meeting with the board and the Council.</p> <p>13 But I just want to kind of put it out</p> <p>14 there to the public so everybody is aware that</p> <p>15 Chapel project is going well. It's on budget</p> <p>16 and on schedule. And so we're looking forward</p> <p>17 to the completion of that at the end of this</p> <p>18 school year.</p> <p>19 So thank you everybody.</p> <p>20 MR. CALLAHAN: Great job.</p> <p>21 MS. HAYTHE: Thank you, Kevin.</p>
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<p>1 request. This is not an obligation for funding</p> <p>2 at this point. Obviously, this is a submission</p> <p>3 to the State. We'd be asking them for support.</p> <p>4 And then once they do that, if they do that,</p> <p>5 then it would come to the Council as to whether</p> <p>6 or not they can fund at that time.</p> <p>7 So this would be more towards the end of</p> <p>8 this year that we'd be looking for funding. So</p> <p>9 right now, it's just a letter of support.</p> <p>10 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Council, any other</p> <p>11 questions for Kevin? Okay.</p> <p>12 So is there a motion?</p> <p>13 MR. STEPP: I make a motion for the letter</p> <p>14 of support.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>16 MS. MIELKE: Second.</p> <p>17 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and</p> <p>18 second for the letter of support. Madam</p> <p>19 Secretary, could you call the vote.</p> <p>20 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>21 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p>	<p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you. Appreciate it.</p> <p>2 Okay. Next on the agenda is another</p> <p>3 update of the county real property tax.</p> <p>4 Martha, you want to come on up.</p> <p>5 MS. SPARKS: Good evening, Council.</p> <p>6 MR. CALLAHAN: Good evening.</p> <p>7 MS. SPARKS: Martha Sparks, finance</p> <p>8 director for Talbot County.</p> <p>9 What you have here before you is a request</p> <p>10 that you receive each year for real property</p> <p>11 tax credits to various nonprofit organizations</p> <p>12 that own property in the county.</p> <p>13 For the 2025-2026 tax year, the county has</p> <p>14 received these requests for property tax</p> <p>15 credits from the following organizations:</p> <p>16 Chesapeake Audubon Society, Chesapeake</p> <p>17 Wildlife Heritage, Commissioners of</p> <p>18 St. Michael's, Habitat for Humanity,</p> <p>19 Neighborhood Service Center, Spring Hill</p> <p>20 Cemetery, Talbot Ag Center, Talbot County,</p> <p>21 Maryland, Tuckahoe Steam and Gas Association,</p>

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<p>1 Waterfowl Festival.</p> <p>2 The request for credits on county real</p> <p>3 property taxes on these 32 parcels total</p> <p>4 \$48,922.78. That's down from the previous</p> <p>5 year, and the decrease is about \$20,831.</p> <p>6 I request that the Council approve the</p> <p>7 county real property tax credits on those</p> <p>8 properties.</p> <p>9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Any questions,</p> <p>10 Council?</p> <p>11 MS. MIELKE: No.</p> <p>12 MS. HAYTHE: No. Motion to approve.</p> <p>13 MS. MIELKE: Second.</p> <p>14 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and</p> <p>15 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the</p> <p>16 vote.</p> <p>17 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>18 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>19 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>20 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>21 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.</p>	<p>1 MS. HAYTHE: Motion to approve the</p> <p>2 appointment.</p> <p>3 MS. MIELKE: Second.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and</p> <p>5 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the</p> <p>6 vote.</p> <p>7 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>8 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>9 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>10 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>11 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.</p> <p>12 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>13 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>14 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>15 MR. STAMP: Thank you, Council.</p> <p>16 The next is the Commission on Aging.</p> <p>17 We're requesting the appointment of Ms. Wendy</p> <p>18 Palmer.</p> <p>19 MS. HAYTHE: Motion to approve the</p> <p>20 appointment.</p> <p>21 MR. STEPP: Second.</p>
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<p>1 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>2 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>3 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Great job.</p> <p>5 MS. SPARKS: Thank you so much.</p> <p>6 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.</p> <p>7 Now we're onto Clay's stuff. He's writing</p> <p>8 right now.</p> <p>9 MR. STAMP: Thank you. Good evening,</p> <p>10 Council.</p> <p>11 MR. CALLAHAN: Good evening.</p> <p>12 MR. STAMP: Under county manager report</p> <p>13 this evening, I have several things for you.</p> <p>14 We'll begin with committee, board and</p> <p>15 committee appointments, and then I have four</p> <p>16 items of business that I would like to bring</p> <p>17 before you.</p> <p>18 The first under board and committee</p> <p>19 appointments would be for the Adult Public</p> <p>20 Guardianship Review Board. We're recommending</p> <p>21 the appointment of Ms. Amanda Andrew.</p>	<p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and</p> <p>2 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the</p> <p>3 vote.</p> <p>4 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>5 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>6 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>7 MR. STEPP: 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: Thank you, Council.</p> <p>13 And finally, the Upper Shore Aging Board</p> <p>14 of Directors. We're requesting the appointment</p> <p>15 of JoAnn Asparagus-Murray to that Board of</p> <p>16 Directors.</p> <p>17 MS. MIELKE: So moved.</p> <p>18 MS. HAYTHE: Second.</p> <p>19 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and</p> <p>20 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the</p> <p>21 vote.</p>

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<p>1 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan. 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye. 3 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp. 4 MR. STEPP: Aye. 5 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke. 6 MS. MIELKE: Aye. 7 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe. 8 MS. HAYTHE: Aye. 9 MR. STAMP: And then I'll ask Jeannie and 10 Jeff to come up here. 11 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. 12 MR. STAMP: They have a request this 13 evening for your consideration to send a letter 14 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for 15 Atlantic striped bass. 16 I'll let them explain it to you. Thank 17 you. 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Welcome. 19 MR. HARRISON: If we can explain it. 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. Yeah. 21 MR. HARRISON: I'm Jeff Harrison with</p>	<p>1 this summer. This final, this would probably 2 put him out of business. 3 So we're asking for your help of the 4 letter of opposition. 5 We had a meeting last night at Wye Mills 6 at the college, and it was well attended. But, 7 you know, everyone was in opposition, of 8 course, to it. There was mostly fishermen and 9 commercial fishermen there. 10 And there's another meeting tonight on the 11 other shore in Annapolis, and there may be some 12 people that are for that. Even the 13 recreational people are against this. 14 So we're asking for your help. 15 You know, it's a shame. My grandfather 16 started a charter industry back in 1920. And 17 my father ran a charter and then I ran a 18 charter for a while. But, you know, for a 19 family that really are fishermen, my quota now 20 is 400 pounds of fish for the whole year. And 21 that's going to be cut by 12 percent if this</p>
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<p>1 Tilghman. I'm the president of Talbot 2 Watermen's Association. 3 Yeah. What's going on, the ASMFC is 4 requesting a 12 percent reduction in our 5 harvest of striped bass commercial people. And 6 then the charter boats, they're actually trying 7 to be hook and release from January 1st all the 8 way to May, which we're totally against because 9 those are spawning fish and we don't want 10 anybody messing with them. Right now, no one 11 is. 12 And then, they'll have a complete month 13 off in August. 14 And the charter industry in Talbot County 15 took a big hit last year when this same group 16 basically said that instead of being able to 17 catch two fish at a charter, they can only 18 catch one. And their charters are off I think 19 it's like 70 percent. 20 I have a guy who has a charter alongside 21 of me. He's been out like maybe eight times</p>	<p>1 goes through, which it likely will. 2 So that's what is happening, you know, 3 with the watermen with the rockfish situation. 4 So we're asking for your help with this letter 5 of opposition. 6 MR. CALLAHAN: That's good. Okay. 7 MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Hi. I'm Jeannie 8 Haddaway-Riccio. I work with the Talbot 9 Watermen Association. 10 I would just like to add that all of the 11 other Eastern Shore counties have weighed in on 12 this issue because it does impact, as Jeff 13 said, the commercial industry as well as the 14 charter boat captains and recreational fisher 15 people. 16 And at the hearing last night, there were 17 hundreds of people there. They asked for a 18 show of hands who was in favor of catching 19 rockfish while they're spawning. There was 20 only one hand that went up in that entire 21 audience.</p>

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<p>1 And so what we're really asking is that</p> <p>2 the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission</p> <p>3 look at solutions that really get to the root</p> <p>4 of the problem.</p> <p>5 After all of this, they told us last night</p> <p>6 that they believe there's a 30 to 50 percent</p> <p>7 probability that these proposals will actually</p> <p>8 work.</p> <p>9 Once these jobs are gone and these boats</p> <p>10 are gone, there's a 100 percent probability</p> <p>11 that they're not coming back. So we just would</p> <p>12 like for them to go back to the drawing board</p> <p>13 and bring some better solutions.</p> <p>14 MR. CALLAHAN: So Jeff, what's their</p> <p>15 calculation on the 12 percent? How did they</p> <p>16 come up with 12 percent?</p> <p>17 MR. HARRISON: Actually, there's a bunch.</p> <p>18 They could take 20 percent.</p> <p>19 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah.</p> <p>20 MR. HARRISON: The probability when they</p> <p>21 take 12 percent I think is like 40 percent of</p>	<p>1 a certain amount of them are going to die</p> <p>2 anyway. So what are we accomplishing, you</p> <p>3 know? What are we really doing?</p> <p>4 And one of the questions that was asked</p> <p>5 last night is well, what's our goal, you know.</p> <p>6 When we get to this number, this magic number</p> <p>7 that you want, are you going to allow us to</p> <p>8 catch more fish?</p> <p>9 They are never going to allow us to catch</p> <p>10 any more fish. I can tell you that. From now</p> <p>11 on, you're going to have one fish recreational,</p> <p>12 which isn't enough for me to feed me and my</p> <p>13 wife, by the way.</p> <p>14 MR. CALLAHAN: No.</p> <p>15 MR. HARRISON: No.</p> <p>16 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah.</p> <p>17 MR. HARRISON: And that's how it's going</p> <p>18 to be.</p> <p>19 And the real goal for Maryland is to make</p> <p>20 it a game fish, which means no commercial</p> <p>21 harvest and you will never be able to keep one.</p>
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<p>1 chance that they'll reach what they -- what</p> <p>2 they're trying to do is save the spawn fish.</p> <p>3 So they put a slot in there.</p> <p>4 In 2018, we had a really big spawn here in</p> <p>5 the bay. So they're trying to save those fish.</p> <p>6 And those fish right now already are spawning</p> <p>7 fish, but they're trying to save even more</p> <p>8 fish. It's really ridiculous is what it is.</p> <p>9 What they did is they moved the benchmark</p> <p>10 up, the target up back in 2018 when they had</p> <p>11 this big spawn because they wanted to save some</p> <p>12 of those fish. But the problem is that's</p> <p>13 really not attainable. That's what they're</p> <p>14 trying to attain right now. And they even said</p> <p>15 themselves they didn't even know if they would</p> <p>16 be able to do it. And yet we're paying the</p> <p>17 cost for that.</p> <p>18 You know, you go fishing now and the slot</p> <p>19 is 19 to 24 right now. Most of the fish I</p> <p>20 catch are over that now. So, you know, you're</p> <p>21 hooking a lot of fish and releasing them. And</p>	<p>1 And that's the CCA. That's their goal. And</p> <p>2 they're in with the DNR now, and that's where</p> <p>3 all of this is coming from. So, you know,</p> <p>4 they're totally against commercial fishermen</p> <p>5 and they've worked their way into Maryland.</p> <p>6 And now they're right in the DNR and we're in</p> <p>7 trouble.</p> <p>8 And right now, I've seen as high as 40</p> <p>9 charter boats in Tilghman. It says it's a</p> <p>10 fishing village. We have three charter boats</p> <p>11 in Tilghman now. And like I said, one of them</p> <p>12 has been out eight times this year. And they</p> <p>13 cannot afford to stay in business.</p> <p>14 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah, yeah.</p> <p>15 MR. HARRISON: So it's a shame.</p> <p>16 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thanks for that</p> <p>17 update.</p> <p>18 So okay. Do we have...</p> <p>19 MR. STEPP: It's an easy motion.</p> <p>20 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah, that is.</p> <p>21 MS. HAYTHE: Definitely is.</p>

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<p>1 I make a motion to support the letter to</p> <p>2 Secretary Kurtz at DNR.</p> <p>3 MS. MIELKE: Second.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and</p> <p>5 second to go ahead with a support letter.</p> <p>6 Madam Secretary, could you call the vote.</p> <p>7 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>8 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>9 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>10 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>11 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.</p> <p>12 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>13 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>14 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: Well, you guys keep us up</p> <p>16 to date. I appreciate you coming in.</p> <p>17 MR. HARRISON: I also want to thank you</p> <p>18 all for naming us your superheroes down at the</p> <p>19 MACo conference in Ocean City. We had a good</p> <p>20 time.</p> <p>21 I hope Pete isn't still out because of his</p>	<p>1 opening of CDBG process. Talbot County was</p> <p>2 made aware that we have a grant opportunity for</p> <p>3 local nonprofits to seek letters of support and</p> <p>4 interest. I'm sorry. Letters of interest.</p> <p>5 Six nonprofits and Talbot County Planning</p> <p>6 & Zoning submitted letters of interest to</p> <p>7 partner with the county with requests totaling</p> <p>8 over \$2.2 million.</p> <p>9 One nonprofit letter withdrew their</p> <p>10 request.</p> <p>11 Talbot County is eligible to apply for</p> <p>12 \$800,000 that would be available.</p> <p>13 After reviewing the letters of interest,</p> <p>14 DHCD staff, with the DHCD staff, we are</p> <p>15 proposing to partner with the following</p> <p>16 organizations:</p> <p>17 The first is Building African American</p> <p>18 Minds, BAAM; the second is the Neighborhood</p> <p>19 Service Center; and the third is St. Michaels</p> <p>20 Community Center.</p> <p>21 The CDBG applications are due to DHCD on</p>
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<p>1 shucking act.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: I got you.</p> <p>3 MR. HARRISON: So thank you all.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you guys for</p> <p>5 coming.</p> <p>6 MR. STAMP: So the minutes will reflect</p> <p>7 your concern to Pete.</p> <p>8 MR. HARRISON: Yeah, my concern. I'm</p> <p>9 worried.</p> <p>10 MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Get well soon.</p> <p>11 Thank you very much.</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you, guys.</p> <p>13 MR. STAMP: Thank you, Council.</p> <p>14 The next one I'm going to read a little</p> <p>15 bit to you. So just bear with me, I know.</p> <p>16 So presentation of letters of interest</p> <p>17 SFY26 Community Development Block Grant, CDBG,</p> <p>18 Program.</p> <p>19 So as you read in your agenda packet, upon</p> <p>20 notification, the Maryland Department of</p> <p>21 Housing and Community Development of the</p>	<p>1 Friday, October 24th. County staff will return</p> <p>2 to the Council on October 14, 2025, to present</p> <p>3 the applications and to hold the required</p> <p>4 public hearing and to present an administrative</p> <p>5 resolution for consideration.</p> <p>6 I'd like to take a minute just to</p> <p>7 recognize both Mary Kay Verdery and Jessica</p> <p>8 Morris, who have worked really tirelessly on</p> <p>9 this grant program.</p> <p>10 This is an opportunity every year to help,</p> <p>11 help our community. And we have success</p> <p>12 stories.</p> <p>13 This grant, again, has opened up for</p> <p>14 \$800,000 that is available. It is a fairly</p> <p>15 challenging application process.</p> <p>16 And it appears at this point, after</p> <p>17 talking to CDBG, these three organizations</p> <p>18 would be reasonable to send up for their</p> <p>19 consideration.</p> <p>20 Once they, once they scrutinize their</p> <p>21 interest, then we can move forward with the</p>

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<p>1 more arduous process.</p> <p>2 But I'll kind of yield to Jessica. Do you</p> <p>3 have anything that you'd like to add to this?</p> <p>4 MS. MORRIS: Not at this time.</p> <p>5 MR. STAMP: Okay. So Council, I just need</p> <p>6 your approval to partner to send these three</p> <p>7 organizational names up to DHCD and then we'll</p> <p>8 be back to you on October 14th.</p> <p>9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>10 MS. HAYTHE: Motion to approve.</p> <p>11 MS. MIELKE: Second.</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion to</p> <p>13 approve. Madam Secretary, could you call the</p> <p>14 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: Ms. Mielke.</p> <p>20 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>21 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.</p>	<p>1 does have some strengths as it relates to</p> <p>2 preliminary engineering reports. And we have</p> <p>3 used them in the past for the Bar Neck Fairbank</p> <p>4 preliminary engineering report. They did The</p> <p>5 Preserve at Wye Mills preliminary engineering</p> <p>6 report.</p> <p>7 So we ended up going to them, and we got a</p> <p>8 price for \$29,814.75 to do the preliminary</p> <p>9 engineering report for the Claiborne water</p> <p>10 system.</p> <p>11 So we're seeking your all's approval on</p> <p>12 that.</p> <p>13 MR. STAMP: And Council, these funds would</p> <p>14 come from contingency. And Martha Sparks, our</p> <p>15 finance director, has confirmed that sufficient</p> <p>16 funds are available in the contingency item.</p> <p>17 MS. HAYTHE: Motion to approve.</p> <p>18 MS. MIELKE: Second.</p> <p>19 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and</p> <p>20 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the</p> <p>21 vote.</p>
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<p>1 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>2 MR. STAMP: Thank you, Council.</p> <p>3 I ask Ray Clarke, your county engineer, to</p> <p>4 come forward.</p> <p>5 The first item that he's going to speak to</p> <p>6 you about is follow-up to the work session we</p> <p>7 had with the representatives from the community</p> <p>8 of Claiborne. And this is about the PER that</p> <p>9 you all authorized that we move forward with.</p> <p>10 So Ray, I'll hand it to you.</p> <p>11 MR. CLARKE: Council, again, we utilized</p> <p>12 our I guess open-ended engineering services</p> <p>13 agreement where we have I guess Rauch,</p> <p>14 Incorporated, Lane Engineering, as well as</p> <p>15 Davis, Bowen & Friedel, Century Engineering,</p> <p>16 Wallace Montgomery.</p> <p>17 And typically what we try to do is spread</p> <p>18 the work around. But at the same time, we try</p> <p>19 to look at who's got the strengths in certain</p> <p>20 areas.</p> <p>21 And one of the things I would say, Rauch</p>	<p>1 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>3 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>4 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>5 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.</p> <p>6 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>7 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>8 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>9 MR. STAMP: And next item Ray Clarke is</p> <p>10 going to ask you about is consideration to</p> <p>11 award change order number two to Bid Number</p> <p>12 23-09, Goldsborough Neck and Glebe Road culvert</p> <p>13 replacement, Easton, Maryland, Talbot County.</p> <p>14 And Ray, I'll hand it to you.</p> <p>15 MR. CLARKE: Sure thing. Council, again,</p> <p>16 I believe it was on September 16th, an email</p> <p>17 was forwarded to me and I guess Clay.</p> <p>18 We had been working with Brian Moore, the</p> <p>19 roads supervisor for Talbot County. And</p> <p>20 ultimately has noted that there is I guess</p> <p>21 imminent danger that the culverts could fail at</p>


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<p>1 Chapel Road.</p> <p>2 So with that being said, we initiated a</p> <p>3 meeting with the Maryland Department of the</p> <p>4 Environment to discuss basically what's</p> <p>5 referred to as a post permit action. So the</p> <p>6 post permit allows us to move forward with the</p> <p>7 design and construction without securing the</p> <p>8 permit up front. And then we go back and get</p> <p>9 the permit after it's been constructed.</p> <p>10 To do that, we've met with MDE. And we</p> <p>11 would have to go with a bottomless culvert to</p> <p>12 do this post permit. So we did that.</p> <p>13 We then reached out to David A. Bramble.</p> <p>14 I will note that David A. Bramble did the</p> <p>15 bottomless culvert for Dutchmans Lane back in</p> <p>16 2000 and, I believe it was in 2016. And that</p> <p>17 culvert pretty much cost about a million</p> <p>18 dollars.</p> <p>19 Again, the bottomless culverts tend to be</p> <p>20 a little more expensive because you have to put</p> <p>21 in a foundation for the precast structure to go</p>	<p>1 change order in order to expedite the work to</p> <p>2 be done.</p> <p>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Is there a motion?</p> <p>4 MS. MIELKE: So moved.</p> <p>5 MS. HAYTHE: Yeah. Second.</p> <p>6 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. We got a motion and</p> <p>7 second to move forward on the culvert</p> <p>8 replacement. Madam Secretary, could call the</p> <p>9 vote.</p> <p>10 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>11 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>12 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>13 MR. STEPP: Aye.</p> <p>14 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.</p> <p>15 MS. MIELKE: Aye.</p> <p>16 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.</p> <p>17 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.</p> <p>18 MR. CLARKE: Thank you.</p> <p>19 MR. STAMP: Thank you, Ray.</p> <p>20 MR. STEPP: Ray, real quick. When are we</p> <p>21 opening up back Goldsborough Neck Road?</p>
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<p>1 into place.</p> <p>2 Working with David A. Bramble, we</p> <p>3 basically worked quickly to get a proposal from</p> <p>4 them. They did come back with a proposal for</p> <p>5 \$1,379,483 to go ahead and do that culvert</p> <p>6 replacement for Chapel Road.</p> <p>7 MR. STAMP: And I'd like to just piggyback</p> <p>8 on what Ray shared and relay some information</p> <p>9 from Brian Moore, your roads superintendent.</p> <p>10 This Chapel Road, as you know, is a</p> <p>11 primary county road, carries a lot of traffic.</p> <p>12 This section of Chapel Road is vulnerable if we</p> <p>13 were to have a significant rain event or a</p> <p>14 hurricane for a partial collapse of the road</p> <p>15 and eventually an eventual collapse. So we</p> <p>16 need to move forward on this quickly in his</p> <p>17 opinion. And of course, Ray's as well.</p> <p>18 Secondly, as far as the procurement, we</p> <p>19 are currently under contract with Bramble. And</p> <p>20 Bramble's agreed to hold the unit pricing on</p> <p>21 this existing competitively bid contract for a</p>	<p>1 MR. CLARKE: We -- the good news right now</p> <p>2 is that we were looking at opening it before</p> <p>3 Thanksgiving. We are getting word right now</p> <p>4 that we could open it probably, at this point</p> <p>5 in time, November 4th. We are moving as</p> <p>6 quickly as we can.</p> <p>7 We are trying also to have, if we can get,</p> <p>8 Verizon in. We're hoping that they will be</p> <p>9 into the area this week, along with Easton</p> <p>10 Utilities. That could actually shorten it up a</p> <p>11 little bit if they get their work done.</p> <p>12 We are moving fast on that project. And</p> <p>13 to avoid any issues, any further let's say road</p> <p>14 construction issues, we are working with David</p> <p>15 A. Bramble to go ahead and move into Villa Road</p> <p>16 and do the work on Villa Road.</p> <p>17 So a lot of this could be wrapped up, like</p> <p>18 I said, by early November.</p> <p>19 MR. STEPP: Thank you.</p> <p>20 MR. CALLAHAN: Good job.</p> <p>21 MR. STAMP: Thank you, Ray.</p>

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<p>1 MR. CLARKE: Thank you.</p> <p>2 MR. STAMP: Council, thank you. We have a</p> <p>3 lot of existing projects underway. And we're</p> <p>4 looking forward to bringing a number of them to</p> <p>5 completion.</p> <p>6 Just a reminder, on the 29th of September,</p> <p>7 next Monday night or Monday afternoon at 4:30,</p> <p>8 there's going to be a groundbreaking across</p> <p>9 from the Chapel School for the north EMS</p> <p>10 station. So anyone that wants to stop out</p> <p>11 there and join Council, they will be breaking</p> <p>12 new ground. Everyone is quite excited about</p> <p>13 that.</p> <p>14 But thank you, as always, for your</p> <p>15 support. And this concludes your county</p> <p>16 manager report.</p> <p>17 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you. Good</p> <p>18 job.</p> <p>19 Okay. Next on the agenda is the public</p> <p>20 comment. Nobody? No sign-up sheet. Okay.</p> <p>21 Anybody want to come? We only have two</p>	<p>1 And we will miss him greatly. He had a</p> <p>2 lot of positive effect on this community and he</p> <p>3 will be missed. Thank you.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you. Yup.</p> <p>5 MS. HAYTHE: No comments tonight.</p> <p>6 MR. CALLAHAN: No comment?</p> <p>7 MS. HAYTHE: No.</p> <p>8 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>9 MS. HAYTHE: Good meeting.</p> <p>10 MR. CALLAHAN: Great meeting. Appreciate</p> <p>11 the good work, staff. That's for sure.</p> <p>12 Okay. Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>13 MR. STEPP: So the County Council's next</p> <p>14 meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 14th,</p> <p>15 beginning at 5 p.m. The Council will be</p> <p>16 convening in open session at 2:30 p.m. for our</p> <p>17 annual meeting with our local delegation, which</p> <p>18 is open to the public. And then adjourning</p> <p>19 into closed session, as listed on the statement</p> <p>20 for closing that meeting.</p> <p>21 On Tuesday, September 30, 2025, the County</p>
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<p>1 now. Jeannie?</p> <p>2 MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Thank you. I think</p> <p>3 I've asked for enough tonight.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: My main man back there.</p> <p>5 You good back there? Good? Okay. Okay.</p> <p>6 Next would be Council comments.</p> <p>7 Mr. Stepp.</p> <p>8 MR. STEPP: I'm good.</p> <p>9 MR. CALLAHAN: You're good. Okay.</p> <p>10 MS. MIELKE: I would like to eulogize</p> <p>11 Judge North. I met him 46 years ago in this</p> <p>12 room. And he was the District Court judge.</p> <p>13 Believe it or not, this was a District Court</p> <p>14 once upon a time.</p> <p>15 And also, I was acquainted with him</p> <p>16 through Miles River Yacht Club, as I was race</p> <p>17 committee for log canoe races. So I knew him</p> <p>18 for a good ten years in that capacity.</p> <p>19 And of course, he is a brilliant</p> <p>20 contributor to antique cars and classic cars</p> <p>21 and was very well known for that.</p>	<p>1 Council will be holding a work session at</p> <p>2 4 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room to discuss</p> <p>3 the feasibility study for the Welcome Center</p> <p>4 with Cassandra Vanhooser, director of Economic</p> <p>5 Development and Tourism, followed by a 5 p.m.</p> <p>6 meeting with the elected officials from the</p> <p>7 towns.</p> <p>8 The 5 p.m. meeting will be held in the</p> <p>9 Talbot County Free Library, Easton Branch,</p> <p>10 meeting room and is open to the public.</p> <p>11 On Tuesday, October 7, 2025, the County</p> <p>12 Council will be meeting with the Board of</p> <p>13 Education at 5 p.m. at the Chapel District</p> <p>14 Elementary School.</p> <p>15 Therefore, is there a motion to adjourn</p> <p>16 this meeting and reconvene as noted?</p> <p>17 MS. HAYTHE: So moved.</p> <p>18 MS. MIELKE: Second.</p> <p>19 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and</p> <p>20 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the</p> <p>21 vote.</p>

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1 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
2 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
3 SECRETARY: Mr. Stepp.
4 MR. STEPP: Aye.
5 SECRETARY: Ms. Mielke.
6 MS. MIELKE: Yes.
7 SECRETARY: Ms. Haythe.
8 MS. HAYTHE: Aye.
9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thanks a lot.
10 (Meeting concluded at: 6:09 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 Talbot County,
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 September, 2025, at Easton, MD.

Diane Houlihan
Notary Public
My commission expires September 16, 2025

[& - absolutely]

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[absolutely - appreciate]

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