



TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

County Council

MINUTES

January 25, 2022

Present – President Chuck Callahan, Vice President Pete Leshner, Frank Divilio, Corey Pack, Laura Price, County Manager Clay Stamp, and County Attorney Patrick Thomas.

- I. Agenda – Mr. Callahan requested and received unanimous consent for approval of the Agenda of Tuesday, January 25, 2022.
- II. Disbursements – Mr. Callahan requested and received unanimous consent for approval of the Disbursements of Tuesday, January 18, 2022 and Tuesday, January 25, 2022.
- III. Proclamation – National Human Trafficking Prevention Month – January 2022 – The Clerk read a proclamation into the record which spoke of the tactics by which both children and adults can be coerced into human trafficking for purposes of performing commercial sex acts, labor or other services against their will, the prevalence of the crime, and the efforts by the public and private sectors to prevent individuals from being trafficked, to rescue the victims of this heinous crime and to prosecute its perpetrators. Mr. Edwin Thomas, Co-Chair, Eastern Shore Human Trafficking Task Force briefed the Council on the formation of the group as a means of bringing the issue to the attention of the public. Upon motion by Mr. Pack, seconded by Ms. Price, the Council approved the proclamation by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

 Mr. Callahan – Aye
 Mr. Divilio – Aye
 Mr. Leshner – Aye
 Ms. Price – Aye
 Mr. Pack - Aye
- IV. Presentation of FY2020-2021 Audit – Chris Lehman, Audit Partner, SB & Company, LLC; William “Bill” Seymour, Engagement Partner, SB & Company, LLC; Joye Nagle, Talbot County Finance Director; Ken Davis, Assistant Finance Director - Ms. Nagle and Mr. Davis, both new to working in the local government sector, expressed their appreciation to Mr. Lehman and his team for their assistance in preparation of the audit. Mr. Lehman utilized a PowerPoint presentation to outline the procedures for the audit, the scope of services provided, and responsibilities of the County and the auditing firm. He provided a summary of the results of the audit which included the issuance of a clean or unmodified opinion on the County’s financial statements. Council members expressed their appreciation to Mr. Lehman and his team, and to County staff for all their hard work to complete the audit.
- V. Update from Talbot County Department of Social Services on Children’s Advocacy Center and Empower Me Program – Linda Webb, Executive Director, Talbot County Department of Social Services; Paris Quillet, Special Projects Coordinator, Talbot County Department of Social Services – Ms. Webb utilized a PowerPoint presentation to update the Council on the Talbot County Advocacy Center (CAC) which, for 18 years, has provided support services to child victims of physical and/or sexual abuse, extreme neglect, and the non-offending caregiver from Kent, Caroline, Talbot, Dorchester, and Queen Anne’s counties. She stated that the CAC is in the process of reaccreditation with the National Children’s Alliance; the site visit scheduled for May 10, 2022 will complete the reaccreditation process. Ms. Webb outlined the various services individuals receive from a multidisciplinary team at the CAC to help individuals heal; the team includes Child Protective Services workers, a family advocate, and legal, law enforcement, medical and mental health partners. Ms. Webb outlined the process by which interviews with victims are conducted to

avoid re-traumatization. She stated that since the last update to Council, a new medical director had been hired, the multidisciplinary team had been provided with 53 training opportunities, and a youth feedback survey had been implemented. She stated that the purpose of the youth feedback survey is to help ensure that the children receiving services by the CAC are provided with the environment and the support they need in their journey to healing; 94 individuals were served between July 2021 and December 31, 2021. Ms. Webb expressed her appreciation to the various organizations which provide services or funding to the CAC. Ms. Quillet briefed the Council on Empower Me, a sex abuse prevention program of the Department of Social Services developed by the Jacob Wetterling Resource Center and the Zero Abuse Project in Minnesota. She stated that the program teaches children and adults about personal safety with the goal of reducing the incidence of child sex abuse by raising community awareness and providing children and caregivers with the language and tools to help keep themselves and others safe. She stated that, in her opinion, every adult should have the knowledge provided by the program, noting numerous groups and organizations to which presentations have been made, to date totaling approximately 600 adults and 1,200 children. Ms. Quillet expressed her appreciation to various community partners for their support of the program. Council discussion ensued with Ms. Webb and Ms. Quillet as information was brought forward. The Department of Social Services will continue to update the Council on a regular or as-needed basis.

VI. Eligible for Vote:

Resolution No. 308, A RESOLUTION TO RESCIND ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 281, A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN (THE “PLAN”) TO RECLASSIFY AND REMAP PORTIONS OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF TRAPPE, MARYLAND, ASSOCIATED WITH THE LAKESIDE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (THE “LAKESIDE PROJECT”) (FORMERLY KNOWN AS “TRAPPE EAST”), FURTHER DESCRIBED AS TAX MAP 54, PARCEL 304; TAX MAP 55, PARCELS 14, 15, 17, 19, 44, 65, 83, AND 85; AND, TAX MAP 59, PARCEL 4, THE TOTAL AREA CONSISTING OF EIGHT HUNDRED SIXTY-FIVE ACRES, MORE OR LESS (THE “PROPERTY”), FROM “S-2” AND “W-2” (AREAS WHERE IMPROVEMENTS OR EXTENSIONS TO EXISTING, OR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW COMMUNITY, MULTI-USE, OR SHARED SANITARY FACILITIES ARE PROGRAMMED FOR PROGRESS WITHIN THREE TO FIVE YEARS) TO “S-1” AND “W-1” (AREAS SERVED OR TO BE SERVED BY COMMUNITY, MULTI-USE, OR SHARED SANITARY FACILITIES WHICH ARE EXISTING, UNDER CONSTRUCTION, OR HAVE IMMEDIATE PRIORITY STATUS); TO AMEND THE PLAN TO ADD CERTAIN WATER AND SEWER CAPITAL PROJECTS RELATED TO THE LAKESIDE PROJECT AND EXISTING SYSTEMS FOR THE FISCAL YEARS 2020 THROUGH 2030; AND, TO AMEND THE PLAN TO UPDATE THE NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION IN THE PLAN RELATIVE TO THE LAKESIDE PROJECT AND EXISTING SYSTEMS, *as amended*, WITHOUT PREJUDICE, was read in to the record by the Clerk and brought forward for vote. Prior to the vote, Mr. Leshner requested Council’s consideration to defer the vote on Resolution No. 308 until the Planning Commission has an opportunity to provide an opinion on the resolution, given the new information which has been received by the County; Council discussion ensued with regard to among others, the following: whether the rescission of Resolution No. 281 would be supported by the Comprehensive Plan; whether there was authority to connect the new development to the Town of Trappe wastewater system prior to the adoption of Resolution No. 281 by the County Council in August 2020; the effect of the Planning Commission’s overturning of Resolution No. 281 in November 2021; the authority of the Planning Commission to overturn Resolution No. 281; the Town of Trappe’s Wastewater Treatment Plant; communication with, and the role of, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). Mr. Pack stated that the public hearing had been held on Resolution No. 308 and it is before the Council for vote; he requested the Chair to call the vote. Council discussion again ensued; Mr. Pack requested that the Chair call the vote as a Point of Order; Mr. Leshner made a motion to defer the vote

on Resolution No. 308 and Ms. Price seconded the motion. The Council approved the motion by voting 3 – 2 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Divilio - Aye
Mr. Leshler – Aye
Ms. Price – Aye
Mr. Pack – Aye

Mr. Pack reiterated that he had requested as a Point of Order that the Chair call the vote on Resolution No. 308, but that the Chair had not done so. Council discussion ensued. Mr. Callahan requested that staff schedule a meeting (virtual) with all parties in the next couple of weeks to discuss the various issues related to Resolution No. 308 and the Lakeside project. Resolution No. 308 will be scheduled for vote at an upcoming Council meeting.

Resolution No. 311, A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE TO CLARIFY CERTAIN PROCEDURES REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF NUMBERED AND ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTIONS, THE FILING OF PETITIONS, THE DRAFTING OF LEGISLATION, AND THE CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS AND TO CORRECT OUTDATED AND INCONSISTENT LANGUAGE, was read into the record by the Clerk and brought forward for vote. Prior to the vote, Council discussion ensued regarding the provision in the resolution which requires a Council member who requests the County Attorney to draft legislation to notify all other members of the Council and the County Manager of the request, and that a copy of the request also be filed with the Secretary, instead of an acknowledgement by at least two other members of the Council that they are aware of the request. Upon motion by Mr. Pack, seconded by Ms. Price, an amendment to Resolution No. 311 was proposed to read as follows: Paragraph 2, §VI. A. Introduction of Bills, Resolutions and Petitions - *Two other members of the Council shall be copied on the request. A copy of the request shall also be filed with the Secretary.* The Council approved the amendment by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshler – Aye
Ms. Price – Aye
Mr. Pack – Aye

Council discussion then ensued regarding the process for submitting a petition to the Council as outlined in § VI. B. Introduction of Petitions of Resolution No. 311. Following discussion, at Council's request, County Attorney, Patrick Thomas, providing wording of an amendment for Council's consideration as follows: *No person may join in a petition after it has been filed with the County. No petition shall be filed with the County concerning a matter for which another petition was filed with the County at any time in the previous eighteen (18) months except upon demonstration of a material change in facts or circumstances, as determined by the Council in its sole discretion.* Upon motion by Ms. Price, seconded by Mr. Leshler, the Council approved the amendment by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshler – Aye
Ms. Price – Aye
Mr. Pack – Aye

Upon motion by Ms. Price, seconded by Mr. Pack, the Council approved Resolution No. 311, as amended, by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Aye
Ms. Price – Aye
Mr. Pack – Aye

Resolution No. 311, as amended, is effective immediately.

The Council meeting recessed at 8:32 p.m.

The Council meeting resumed at 8:37 p.m.

VII. Public Hearing:

Resolution No. 313, A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TALBOT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN REGARDING THE CONNECTION OF PHASE 1, SECTION 1 OF THE LAKESIDE PROJECT TO THE EXISTING TRAPPE WASTEWATERSYSTEM, was read into the record by the Clerk and brought forward for public hearing. Prior to the public hearing, Mr. Leshner stated that he wished to offer a motion for an amendment to Resolution No. 313 (the blue amendment), known as Amendment No. 1; Ms. Price seconded the motion. Ms. Price requested that County Attorney, Patrick Thomas, explain the amendment as, in her opinion, it might change what individuals may say during the public hearing on the resolution. Mr. Thomas stated that the purpose of the amendment is to add a requirement that any new connections from the Lakeside start-up phase to the existing Town of Trappe wastewater system are also subject to the existing wastewater treatment plant being upgraded to Enhanced Nutrient Removal (ENR) standards, with the treated effluent also meeting ENR standards as set forth in the “Trappe Area Sewerage System” section of the Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan. Mr. Thomas outlined the language that the proposed amendment would also delete, specifically, that *No portion of the start-up phase may be connected to the existing Town of Trappe wastewater system more than 18 months after final approval of County Resolution No. 313 by MDE. Within 18 months from final issuance of all required permits and approvals for the new Lakeside WWTP (including exhaustion or final resolution of all appeals), all wastewater from the start-up phase being treated by the existing Trappe wastewater system shall be redirected to the new Lakeside WWTP.* Council discussion ensued. Mr. Pack asked for a Point of Order, stating that an amendment had been introduced and seconded and needs to be voted upon. Council discussion again ensued; Ms. Price rescinded her second. Council discussion ensued and Mr. Thomas stated that should Council choose to do so, they could vote on the amendment, and if approved, the public hearing could be held on Resolution No. 313, as amended, Resolution No. 313, as amended could then go back to the Planning Commission for consideration. Council discussion continued. Members of the public were afforded an opportunity to comment on the legislation. Mr. Pack made a motion to move Resolution No. 313 forward for vote; as there was no second, the motion died. Mr. Leshner made a motion to defer the vote on Resolution No. 313; Ms. Price seconded the motion; however, since Mr. Pack’s motion failed to move Resolution No. 313 forward for vote, the vote was deferred by default.

VIII. Discussion of Pending General Assembly Legislation: *HB51, TALBOT COUNTY – DEER AND TURKEY HUNTING – SUNDAYS* was brought forward for discussion. Delegate Johnny Mautz, the sponsor of the legislation, stated that the purpose of the legislation is to designate the same Sundays in Talbot County for hunting as are currently available in neighboring counties; the legislation also includes Sunday hunting during a short turkey season in the spring. County Council discussion ensued with Delegate Mautz who emphasized that the bill applies to private land only. Upon motion by Ms. Price, seconded by Mr. Divilio, the Council approved forwarding a letter in support of HB51 by voting 4-1 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Nay
Ms. Price – Aye
Mr. Pack - Aye

IX. County Manager’s Report:

A. Talbot County Adult Public Guardianship Review Board – Requested Council approval for the reappointment of Wendy Young-Dyott, Laura Higgins, Glenn Klakring, and Kerri Engels Roberts to three-year terms on the Talbot County Adult Public Guardianship Review Board; said terms will expire on January 1, 2025. Upon motion by Mr. Divilio, seconded by Mr. Pack, the Council approved the reappointments by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Aye
Ms. Price – Aye
Mr. Pack - Aye

B. Request for Letter of Support - Requested Council approval of a request from Eastern Shore Land Conservancy for a letter in support of the Tuckahoe Rural Legacy Area and the Eastern Shore Heartland Rural Legacy Area as areas which remain consistent with the County’s Comprehensive Plan and should receive consideration for preservation funding. Upon motion by Mr. Pack, seconded by Ms. Price, the Council approved forwarding a letter of support by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Aye
Ms. Price – Aye
Mr. Pack – Aye

C. Bid No. 21-08, COMMUNITY CENTER ATHLETIC FIELD IRRIGATION - TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND – Requested Council approval of the Department of Parks and Recreation Director’s recommendation to award Bid No. 21-08 to the sole bidder, Montgomery Irrigation, in the sum of \$85,000 for the installation of irrigation of the athletic field at the Talbot County Community Center. Mr. Stamp stated that if approved, 90% of the cost (\$76,500) is reimbursable through Program Open Space. Mr. Stamp confirmed that there are sufficient funds in the budget to make up the 10% difference. Upon motion by Mr. Pack, seconded by Mr. Divilio, the Council approved the bid award by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Aye
Ms. Price – Aye
Mr. Pack – Aye

- D. Bid No. 21-11, COMMUNITY CENTER ICE PLANT REPLACEMENT – TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND – Requested Council’s approval of the Department of Parks and Recreation Director’s recommendation to award Bid No. 21-11 to the sole bidder, American Arena in the sum of \$1,089,000 plus an additional \$25,000 for removal of the old ice plant, including the draining and disposal of all toxic chemicals; total cost of the project is \$1,114,000; following completion of the project, request for reimbursement of \$1,000,000 of the cost of the project will be sent to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Local Parks and Programs Infrastructure Funding; funding from the program is required to be utilized in FY22. Mr. Stamp also requested Council approval of the use of \$114,000 in Contingency Funding, which he certified is available, to cover that portion of the cost of the project not covered by DNR funding. Upon motion by Mr. Pack, seconded by Mr. Divilio, the Council approved the recommendation and use of Contingency Funding as outlined by voting 5 – 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan – Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Aye
Ms. Price – Aye
Mr. Pack – Aye

- E. February Council Meetings – Mr. Stamp stated that all Council meetings will remain virtual through the month of February.

X. Public Comments: There were no comments by members of the public.

XI. Council Comments:

Ms. Price - No comments

Mr. Leshner - Mr. Leshner stated that during the Battle of Britain in 1940, the British government ordered a blackout in order not to aid Luftwaffe bombers in confirming information about the location of homes and businesses in London. He stated that the government did not leave it up to the personal decision of each individual as to whether or not to use blackout curtains; Londoners did not whine about this loss of their personal liberty – they were saving their own lives and the lives of their neighbors. He stated that following, in his opinion, a compelling presentation by the Talbot County Health Officer at the County Council’s last meeting regarding a dire situation by our local hospital and medical providers, the COVID caseload in Talbot County, and the strong recommendation to return to indoor masking to abate this crisis, all this Council could do was to make a statement about how it was up to each individual. He stated that, in his opinion, our weak response showed a disregard for the health of our constituents and for life itself.

Mr. Pack - Mr. Pack stated that, in his opinion, the pandemic has impacted each of us in different ways, as evidenced here tonight – mental health is a stress and can sometimes be overwhelming. He stated that he has requested that the COVID Response Team look at working with some of our community partners to see how some of the mental health issues, particularly among young people, can be mitigated. He stated that, in his opinion, the isolation, stress and anxiety of the pandemic is being felt by young people, just like it is being felt by adults and having a group that can work with the schools and various partners in the community would help stem some of the deep emotional feelings that many of our

young people are experiencing. Mr. Pack stated that he was glad to hear that Maryland House Bill 118, if approved, would allow students to take a mental health day from school and not have the day counted against them. He encouraged the local delegation to review HB118 and support it, as he does. He stated that, in his opinion, allowing students to take care of their mental health is just as important as students staying home to take care of their physical health. Mr. Pack stated that even though mental health providers have been working with Dr. Maguire, he still wanted to highlight the importance of good mental health and would like to see if we can work even more closely as time goes on. He acknowledged that COVID is going to be with us and reiterated a statement previously made by Dr. Maguire that we are approaching an endemic, so we are going to have the disease with us; trying to work together to address the mental health of our young people is important. Mr. Pack concluded his comments by stating that the Council had heard earlier what the Children's Advocacy Center and the Drug Trafficking Prevention Task Force are doing and expressed his appreciation to the providers in the community that deal with mental health issues, especially those of young people.

Mr. Divilio – Mr. Divilio stated that he does not think a week has gone by since he was elected that he has not received a phone call about a Planning and Zoning issue, most of which revolve around septic systems. He stated that he contacts Planning and Zoning and Environmental Health, gets answers and helps explain the answers to the citizen, provides the individuals with recommendations for resolving their issue, the issue gets fixed and they move on. He stated that, in his opinion, he does not see much difference between the phone calls he gets and what is going on at Lakeside, other than some people are upset that more people may be moving to the county; however, he is not one of them and he does not think that is our decision to make – it is our decision to make sure that the environment is safe and healthy. He stated that he will make sure that they have the best technology in place for the families when they move in. Mr. Divilio responded to Mr. Leshner's comments about the Council doing nothing at the last meeting as far as COVID safety by stating that the comments are disappointing because, in his opinion, we are doing something and all of us have, a different role to play. He recalled the many times his father had taught him to think "outside the box" to make sure the problem is being solved by looking at all the different angles and perspectives. He stated that, in his opinion, a mask is not going to keep everyone safe – you can wear a mask all day and still get COVID – that's why there is a vaccine; medicine works. He stated that when he sees a sign in a neighboring county that says masks required regardless of vaccine status, it is, in his opinion, one less person who is going to get vaccinated because they have to wear a mask – it's a roadblock and a mental stop when they see that and think "I'll just wait," then put it off, and stated he doesn't like that. He stated that he likes to approach the problem from different perspectives, and in his opinion, there is public choice – when you go into government buildings in Talbot County you have to have a mask on; when you go into schools, you have to have a mask on; when you are going into places of health where people congregate, you have to have a mask on, but for the rest of us, it is our decision whether or not to go into Acme or Lowe's with a mask on and how far away to stay from other people – and we can do that. Mr. Divilio stated that, in his opinion, we are doing everything in our power and spending a lot of money giving out vaccines and masks to people who want one. He stated that, in his opinion, if we are going to solve any kinds of problems, it is going to take all five of us working together to make our own constituents happy, and then all of Talbot County will be a happy, safe place to live because we are five very different people from very different backgrounds who all chose this place to live and this Council to run for. He stated that he is proud of that, and likes and appreciates each and every one of his colleagues. Mr. Divilio

commented on a recent article he had read in a business magazine about how important it is for the president of a company to be able to call any member of its board to get an answer and that they all be resources to the CEO, CFO and COO, and that's what it takes when you have a diversified board. He stated that he recognized that politics is not like that – we all have something that we want and that we are going to try to step over somebody else to get it if they are not in our favor, but that he does not see that with the Council. He stated that, in his opinion, we have all worked really well together and he has enjoyed his time in office, as difficult as it's been, including this meeting, and that he believes the public does know we care for the vast majority; there will always be a few people who don't and who disagree with us, "but I don't really mind because I've got you guys and you've got me".

Mr. Callahan - Mr. Callahan stated that he was proud of the Council and that "this has been a tough night on all of us, but we are leaders and we are here to lead this County – a lot of people rely on us". He reiterated Mr. Divilio's statement that the Council members are all very different people and, in his opinion, that's why we are in these seats. He referenced the recent tragedy in Baltimore which took the lives of three firefighters, stating that things can happen very quickly and events like that really puts everything in perspective. He stated that he wants to make sure that his colleagues understand that the Council is here to be positive role models in Talbot County – we are positive people – we lead – we agree to disagree, but at the end of the day we do come together. He stated that, in his opinion, it is very, very important that people see the positive in all of us. He stated that over the past two years of the pandemic, many individuals have dealt with physical issues, mental health issues and even death, all of which is very sad. He concurred with Mr. Divilio's statement that COVID is not going anywhere – the common cold has been here for many, many years; the flu has been here for many years, so we are going to have to start dealing with COVID. He stated that all we can do is support each other, support the community and look after their safety, but at the same time we've got to be able to have people make their own choices as well. Mr. Callahan reminded his colleagues that staff looks up to the Council and sometimes when the conversation gets heated, staff may get uncomfortable. He expressed his appreciation to Council returning from the meeting recess in a calmer tone which allowed better communication to take place. He stated that his whole point tonight was to try to get everyone and all the information at the table so we can just get it right – that's all we want to do, get it right. Mr. Callahan concluded his comments by stating that he wants the Council to look back on this meeting as a time when we started communicating with the public, other elected officials, and individuals that make a difference in this conversation.

- XII. Virtual Work Session with Planning and Zoning on Strategic Plan – Miguel Salinas, Planning Officer - A work session was held on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 with Miguel Salinas, Planning Officer, to discuss the results of a recent strategic plan initiative for the Department of Planning and Zoning. In July 2021, Talbot County retained the services of Raftelis to conduct a strategic plan for the Department of Planning and Zoning which includes the Office of Permits and Inspections. Jennifer Teal served as the Project Manager with Raftelis on this project. Ms. Teal reported that Raftelis worked with County staff to develop an environmental scan that included quantitative data on trends in local, regional and state demographics as well as historical data about the Department's operations. This information helped to provide the context within which the Department of Planning and Zoning operates today as well as the challenges and opportunities that the Department faces now and will face in the future. As part of their process, Raftelis conducted individual interviews with key Department staff members as well as County leadership and held stakeholder focus groups with over 20 members of the building, development and design communities. A one-day strategic planning retreat was held in October 2021 with staff from Planning and Zoning to explore

information gathered during the environmental scan, staff interviews and stakeholder conversations. Strategic goal categories that were discussed included technology; optimized processes; organizational capacity; workforce development; revenue sufficiency and customer experience. A summary of the environmental scan noted the following: Talbot County is experiencing modest growth, limited to its incorporated areas; Talbot County's population is aging; Talbot County is homogenous; Housing values in Talbot County are increasing; Talbot County residents are employed, but earn a lower income than the state average; Talbot County is getting safer; Planning and Zoning's staff and leadership have been in transition; Planning and Zoning's cost recovery is decreasing; Planning and Zoning's volume of work is increasing and so are its turnaround times; Planning and Zoning is implementing OpenGov to create an opportunity to evaluate and streamline processes, increase transparency and improve customer service. Mr. Salinas noted that OpenGov is expected to go live in early March. Feedback from stakeholders noted the following: efforts by the Department to engage with stakeholders and improve operations are appreciated and should be expanded; Planning and Zoning staff is responsive and pleasant to work with; long turnaround times are required for permits and approvals are costly and overly burdensome for residents, property owners and developers; stakeholders recognize the challenges of enforcing building and zoning regulations and processes in an environment as ecologically sensitive as Talbot County, as well as the difficulty in balancing the sometimes conflicting guidance of various local, State and federal requirements; and while the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Compliance Review Meetings (CRM) were initially designed to provide support to applicants and stakeholders, it has evolved into a lengthy process that is challenging to navigate. Council discussion ensued with Ms. Teal and Mr. Salinas as outcome-based objectives were discussed. A copy of the report from Raftelis can be obtained at the Planning and Zoning office.

- XIII. Upon motion by Mr. Divilio, seconded by Mr. Pack, the Council voted to adjourn and to reconvene on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. for the quarterly meeting with elected officials from Easton, Oxford, Queen Anne, St. Michaels and Trappe; to reconvene on Thursday, February 3, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. for a joint meeting with the Talbot County Board of Education; and to reconvene on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. for a work session with Sheriff Gamble and his staff, representatives from Easton, Oxford, and St. Michaels and police chiefs on House Bill 670, Maryland Police Accountability Act of 2021; and to convene in a virtual Open Session at 4:00 p.m. and immediately adjourn into a virtual Closed Session for discussion of legal, personnel and real estate matters as listed on the statement for closing the meeting, and at 6:00 p.m. for the virtual meeting by voting 5– 0 as follows:

Mr. Callahan - Aye
Mr. Divilio – Aye
Mr. Leshner – Aye
Ms. Price – Aye
Mr. Pack – Aye

The meeting adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

The transcript of the January 25, 2022 County Council meeting is available for review in the Office of the Talbot County Manager during regular office hours.

XIV. Summary of Closed Session Held on January 25, 2022:

1. Statement of the time, place, and purpose of the closed session:

Time of closed session: 4:30 p.m. to 5:55 p.m.
Place of closed session: Via WebEx Events

Purpose of the closed session: To consider various matters as set forth in the statement for closing the meeting

2. Record of the vote of each member as to closing the session:

Names of members voting aye: Callahan, Divilio, Leshner, Pack, Price

Members opposed: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: None

3. Statutory authority to close session and listing of each topic actually discussed, persons present, and each action taken in the session:

Topic Description	Statutory Authority	Reason for Closed Session Discussion	Persons Present	Action Taken
To discuss appointments to various County boards and committees	GP § 3-305 (b) (1)(i)	Public discussion of specific appointees could discourage individuals from volunteering to serve on County boards and committees	Chuck Callahan, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Corey Pack, Laura Price, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris, Patrick Thomas	No action
To discuss personnel matter in State’s Attorney’s Office	GP § 3-305 (b) (1)(i)	Discussion involves specific individual	Chuck Callahan, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Corey Pack, Laura Price, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris, Patrick Thomas	Council concurred with staff recommendation
To discuss personnel matter regarding compensation	GP § 3-305 (b) (1)(i)	Discussion involves specific individuals	Chuck Callahan, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Corey Pack, Laura Price, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris, Patrick Thomas	No action
To discuss possible acquisition of property in Easton for a public purpose	GP § 3-305(b)(3)	To protect County’s bargaining position regarding the potential acquisition of a specific parcel of real property for a public purpose	Chuck Callahan, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshner, Corey Pack, Laura Price, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris, Patrick Thomas, Joye Nagle	Council directed staff to prepare counter-proposal for consideration
Legal advice on code enforcement	GP § 3-305 (b) (7)	Confidential attorney-client	Chuck Callahan, Frank Divilio,	No action

matter involving property in Easton		discussion regarding potential dispute resolution	Pete Leshar, Corey Pack, Laura Price, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris, Patrick Thomas	
Legal advice on litigation (Petition 21-02/Preserve Talbot History, Inc.)	GP § 3-305 (b) (7)(8)	Confidential attorney-client discussion regarding status of litigation	Chuck Callahan, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshar, Corey Pack, Laura Price, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris, Patrick Thomas	No action
Update on opioid litigation	GP § 3-305 (b) (7)(8)	Confidential attorney-client discussion regarding possible settlement of litigation	Chuck Callahan, Frank Divilio, Pete Leshar, Corey Pack, Laura Price, Clay Stamp, Jessica Morris, Patrick Thomas	Council concurred with settlement agreements as presented

CASH STATEMENT 1/18/2022

BALANCE 1/11/2022	53,920,070.62
CIGNA CLAIMS PAID THRU 1/10/2022	(118,837.96)
USDA/RD QTRLY BOND PYMT #92-03	(9,478.60)
WELLS FARGO GOLF EQUIPMENT LEASE PYMT	(128.00)
USDA/RD MTHLY BOND PYMT #97-08	(1,304.00)
REIMBURSEMENT FOR EASTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECT	(22,999.14)
REIMBURSEMENT FOR EARLY HEAD START DOBSON SEPARATION	(6,874.45)
REIMBURSEMENT FOR TALBOT FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER	(198,441.45)
ELECTION BOARD PPE 11/30/21 & 12/07/21	(13,202.79)
TALBOT COUNTY PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT BONDS OF 2020	(374,000.00)
ENTERPRISE LEASE PYMT 12/2021	(11,695.95)
ELECTION BOARD PPE 12/14/21, 12/21/21, 12/28/21 & 1/4/22	(36,334.12)
WELLS FARGO GOLF EQUIPMENT LEASE PYMT	(4,092.00)
RETURNED CHECK #1001	(125.00)
RETURNED CHECK # 8104	(3,057.37)
BANK CHARGES 11/2021	(3,646.78)
INTEREST ON ACCOUNTS 12/2021	4,122.55

DEPOSIT CORRECTION 1/5/2022	8,977.51
DEPOSITS	1,742,655.49
CHECKS	(702,016.50)
VOIDED CHECK(S) 355447	2,692.00
BALANCE 1/18/2022	<u>54,172,284.06</u>

INVESTMENTS - CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

<u>Certificate Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Amount</u>
PNC-MLGIP INVESTMENTS TOTAL		0.05%	20,500,000.00
BAYVANGUARD BANK			10,213,058.40
TOTAL INVESTED			<u>30,713,058.40</u>
PETTY CASH BALANCE			<u>12,175.00</u>
<u>GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS</u>			<u>84,897,517.46</u>

CASH STATEMENT 1/25/2022

BALANCE 1/18/2022	54,172,284.06
TOTAL ADP PAYROLL PPE 1/7/2022	(719,391.04)
DEFERRED COMP DED PPE 1/7/2022	(19,025.87)
PENSION DED PPE 1/7/2022	(41,145.20)
DEFERRED COMP PPE 1/7/2022 PLAN 401(A)	(6,825.14)
CIGNA CLAIMS PAID THRU 1/18/2022	(83,253.88)
AGRICULTURAL TRANSFER TAX 12/2021	(21,500.00)
STATE REPORT 12/2021	(1,427,033.28)
HOG NECK GOLF COURSE SALES & USE DUE 1/20/22022	(487.15)
COMMUNITY CENTER SALES & USE DUE 1/20/2022	(569.09)
REPURPOSING CENTER SALES & USE DUE 1/20/2022	(182.78)

REIMBURSE EASTON HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT RESURFACING	(12,510.00)
SHERIFF SUMMONS ACCOUNT TRANSFER	(200.00)
FY22 TALBOT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS	(104,284.99)
BANK CHARGES 12/2021	(3,268.41)
ENTERPRISE LEASE PYMT 1/2022	(11,685.15)
DEPOSITS	1,233,563.71
CHECKS	(545,749.66)
VOIDED CHECK(S) #356640, 356644, 356661, 356691, 356700	21,560.24
BALANCE 1/25/2022	<u>52,430,296.37</u>

INVESTMENTS - CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

<u>Certificate Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Amount</u>
PNC-MLGIP INVESTMENTS TOTAL		0.05%	20,500,000.00
BAYVANGUARD BANK			10,213,058.40
TOTAL INVESTED			<u>30,713,058.40</u>
PETTY CASH BALANCE			<u>12,175.00</u>
<u>GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS</u>			<u>83,155,529.77</u>