



Deposition of:
Talbot County Council Meeting
July 14, 2020

In the Matter of:
Talbot County Council Meeting

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COUNTY COUNCIL OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Council Meeting

July 14, 2020; 6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, Easton, Maryland

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Corey W. Pack

Chuck F. Callahan

Pete Leshner

Laura E. Price

Reported by

Diane Houlihan

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| Page 2 | Page 4 |
| <p>1 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 MR. PACK: You mind standing, please, for</p> <p>4 opening prayer followed by the Pledge of</p> <p>5 Allegiance.</p> <p>6 (Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.)</p> <p>7 MR. PACK: Thank you. Counsel has an</p> <p>8 agenda. The chair would ask are there any</p> <p>9 additions, deletions, or corrections to that</p> <p>10 agenda? Hearing none, the chair moves that the</p> <p>11 agenda be accepted with unanimous consent.</p> <p>12 We also have minutes from the May 26th</p> <p>13 meeting. We've had a chance to go through</p> <p>14 those minutes. Are there any additions,</p> <p>15 deletions, or corrections to those minutes?</p> <p>16 MR. LESHER: I don't think we have those</p> <p>17 minutes.</p> <p>18 MR. PACK: We don't have those minutes.</p> <p>19 Thank you. So strike that.</p> <p>20 Do we have the. . .</p> <p>21 MR. LESHER: Disbursements.</p> | <p>1 it to be put back on the agenda?</p> <p>2 MR. LESHER: I did. Mr. Pack, I'm</p> <p>3 prepared to make that motion, if that's in</p> <p>4 order now.</p> <p>5 But I also see that we have Sheriff Gamble</p> <p>6 in attendance here. And since we have the</p> <p>7 opportunity to hear from him, do we want to</p> <p>8 open that, provide that opportunity?</p> <p>9 MR. PACK: Let me take your motion first.</p> <p>10 I mean --</p> <p>11 MR. LESHER: I will then start with a</p> <p>12 motion to reconsider.</p> <p>13 MR. CALLAHAN: Second it.</p> <p>14 MR. PACK: Motion by Mr. Leshner. Second</p> <p>15 also by Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>16 Before we call for a vote, we will</p> <p>17 (inaudible) comment. So we'll open it up to</p> <p>18 you first, Mr. Leshner.</p> <p>19 MR. LESHER: Well, while it remains clear</p> <p>20 to me that police reform in America is an</p> <p>21 important topic and necessary and timely and</p> |
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| <p>1 MR. PACK: Let's move down to our</p> <p>2 disbursements. We have disbursements from June</p> <p>3 the 30th and July the 7th and also July the</p> <p>4 14th. We had a chance to go through those</p> <p>5 disbursements, ask any questions of Ms. Lane,</p> <p>6 our finance officer. Any additions, deletions,</p> <p>7 or corrections to those disbursements?</p> <p>8 Hearing none, the chair moves that they</p> <p>9 also be accepted with unanimous consent.</p> <p>10 Okay. Council, moving onto the agenda,</p> <p>11 the first item we have is a matter for</p> <p>12 reconsideration for a letter of support to the</p> <p>13 Maryland Congressional Delegation for HR7120.</p> <p>14 This is the Justice in Policing Act of 2020.</p> <p>15 This letter was moved by the Council at our</p> <p>16 last meeting.</p> <p>17 According to the rules of procedure, only</p> <p>18 a member who voted in the -- to affirm the</p> <p>19 vote, affirm the act could actually bring it</p> <p>20 back before Council.</p> <p>21 And I believe, Mr. Leshner, you asked for</p> | <p>1 that there's a federal role to be played in</p> <p>2 that, in my view this Council made a</p> <p>3 significant error in advocating legislation</p> <p>4 without consulting first with our sheriff.</p> <p>5 And I've personally apologized to him for</p> <p>6 this mistake.</p> <p>7 Sheriff Gamble has considerable expertise</p> <p>8 in addressing police abuses and he has</p> <p>9 recommended a number of matters for police</p> <p>10 reform.</p> <p>11 I also think that since Congress is</p> <p>12 clearly now moving slowly on this, I would</p> <p>13 prefer that we withdraw our approval of the</p> <p>14 letter that we authorized on June 23rd and take</p> <p>15 our time with due consideration and advice of</p> <p>16 the sheriff to craft a replacement that did</p> <p>17 address specific policy issues.</p> <p>18 MR. PACK: Any further statement of</p> <p>19 Council?</p> <p>20 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack, I have a statement</p> <p>21 to be read from Mr. Divilio, who is absent</p> |

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| <p>1 tonight.</p> <p>2 MR. PACK: Sure. Why don't you read that</p> <p>3 for the record as well.</p> <p>4 SECRETARY: I voiced my concerns regarding</p> <p>5 sending a letter about federal legislation but</p> <p>6 ultimately voted in support because I believe</p> <p>7 everything can be improved.</p> <p>8 After speaking with our sheriff, I</p> <p>9 realized I should not have sent a letter in</p> <p>10 support.</p> <p>11 I've always prided myself by reaching out</p> <p>12 and listening to subject matter experts.</p> <p>13 I expected to have their guidance during</p> <p>14 the meeting and ultimately take responsibility</p> <p>15 for not inviting them there.</p> <p>16 Thank you, Frank Divilio, Talbot County</p> <p>17 Councilman.</p> <p>18 MR. PACK: Thank you for reading that into</p> <p>19 the record.</p> <p>20 Mr. Callahan, anything from you?</p> <p>21 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes. So last meeting, it</p> | <p>1 deputies. All the stuff that you do, we</p> <p>2 really, really appreciate it. You're the ones</p> <p>3 that keep us safe.</p> <p>4 You know, when you're up here doing a job</p> <p>5 like this, it's very, very difficult. There's</p> <p>6 a lot of things.</p> <p>7 I think a lot of people do want police</p> <p>8 reform. I think there's a lot to it. I think</p> <p>9 you guys were getting to a point where you tell</p> <p>10 us in a sense that you're headed in the right</p> <p>11 direction. I don't want to tell you how you do</p> <p>12 your job. Okay. You're good at it, and that's</p> <p>13 what we want you to do. We want you to protect</p> <p>14 us.</p> <p>15 So I felt like we were probably stepping</p> <p>16 on your toes. We shouldn't have done that.</p> <p>17 So like I said, I think we're headed in</p> <p>18 the right direction.</p> <p>19 Sheriff Gamble, I really appreciate you</p> <p>20 talking to me several times about what you</p> <p>21 thought about some of the bill that we were</p> |
| Page 7 | Page 9 |
| <p>1 come up that we wanted to talk about and</p> <p>2 support this letter.</p> <p>3 I was kind of led to believe that we were</p> <p>4 headed in the right direction.</p> <p>5 I made a mistake. I should have -- I</p> <p>6 brought up that we wanted to talk to you,</p> <p>7 Sheriff Gamble, and that was my mistake. I was</p> <p>8 on point.</p> <p>9 The one that had it right was Ms. Price.</p> <p>10 She's the one that really knew where we were</p> <p>11 headed with this. I should have followed that</p> <p>12 lead. I was led down the wrong road.</p> <p>13 I talked to you, I talked to Scott. I</p> <p>14 want to apologize for some of your staff and</p> <p>15 really all the officers, you know. It probably</p> <p>16 felt like we weren't behind you. And that's</p> <p>17 far from the truth.</p> <p>18 We are behind you. We have your back. We</p> <p>19 want to be able for you to have a very safe</p> <p>20 community. You guys are doing a phenomenal</p> <p>21 job. And I'm talking to you guys, all the</p> | <p>1 voting on. And there were some things in there</p> <p>2 that you felt that needed to be looked at that</p> <p>3 wasn't right for your department and things in</p> <p>4 general to keep us safe. So I really</p> <p>5 appreciate the opportunity for you to tell me</p> <p>6 some of the good things and the bad things in</p> <p>7 that bill.</p> <p>8 And thank you, Scott, for doing the same</p> <p>9 thing and thanks for protecting us.</p> <p>10 MS. PRICE: I'd like to say that since the</p> <p>11 sheriff is here and has taken the time, I would</p> <p>12 like to give him an opportunity to come up and</p> <p>13 address the Council. I think it's appropriate.</p> <p>14 You should have been here three weeks ago,</p> <p>15 and I hope that the Council agrees that we</p> <p>16 should have you come up and speak.</p> <p>17 MR. PACK: Do you wish to be heard,</p> <p>18 Sheriff Gamble?</p> <p>19 SHERIFF GAMBLE: I would.</p> <p>20 MR. PACK: Come up.</p> <p>21 SHERIFF GAMBLE: Thank you, Council.</p> |

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1 Thank you, Ms. Price, for the invitation
 2 to speak. And thank you for your foresight a
 3 few weeks ago and to vote no against this
 4 letter of support.
 5 Mr. Leshner, thank you for your phone call
 6 quickly afterwards and thank you for the
 7 opportunity to allow me to share some of my
 8 thoughts on the bill and where I think police
 9 reform should go. There's no doubt that police
 10 reform is needed.
 11 And thank you, Chuck, for that same
 12 invitation to speak with you.
 13 I'm going to read a prepared statement.
 14 There's copies here.
 15 The House representatives voted to pass
 16 what is commonly referred to as the Justice in
 17 Policing Act of 2020. This letter details my
 18 opinions on some of the 134-page bill.
 19 There are many news articles that attempt
 20 to summarize the bill as well as talking points
 21 that some would have you believe.

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1 To fully understand any proposed
 2 legislation, I chose to actually read the
 3 entire bill, I did it three times actually, so
 4 I could fully understand it since there is a
 5 possibility that some of it might become law.
 6 I chose to read the entire bill, not to
 7 trust a reporter's rendition or talking points
 8 from a political party. I would encourage this
 9 Council and anybody watching to actually read
 10 the entire bill before making any decisions
 11 that will impact this community directly.
 12 While I won't address every aspect of the
 13 bill, that would require me to write about a
 14 200-page dissertation, I am providing my
 15 opinion on parts of the bill that would be most
 16 detrimental to the citizens of our county, the
 17 safety of our police officers, troopers, and
 18 deputies, and the likelihood that qualified,
 19 intelligent police recruits will disappear from
 20 the landscape if this entire bill will become
 21 law.

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1 As you all know, there's already a severe
 2 shortage of applicants, both locally and
 3 nationally, for policing.
 4 Basically the first five pages of the bill
 5 deal with definitions.
 6 Page six of the bill deals with holding
 7 police accountable in courts. That's what's in
 8 quotes. And it talks about revising section
 9 242 of title 18 of the United States Code.
 10 Currently the United States Code section
 11 242 reads it makes it a crime for a person
 12 acting under color of any law to willingly
 13 deprive any person of a right or privilege
 14 protected under the Constitution of the laws of
 15 the United States. For the purpose of section
 16 242, acts under color include any acts not only
 17 done by federal, State, or local officials
 18 within their lawful authority, but and also of
 19 acts done beyond the bounds of that official's
 20 lawful authority.
 21 If the acts are done while the official is

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1 purporting to or pretending to act in the
 2 performance of his or her official duties,
 3 persons acting under the color of the law
 4 within the meaning of this statute, including
 5 police officers, prison guards, and other law
 6 enforcement officials, as well as judges, care
 7 providers in public health facilities and
 8 others who are acting as public officials.
 9 It is not necessary that the crime be
 10 motivated by animus towards race, color,
 11 religion, sex, handicap, financial status, or
 12 national origin of the victim. The offense is
 13 punishable by a range of imprisonment up to a
 14 term of life or the death penalty, depending on
 15 the circumstances of the crime. Thank you.
 16 What the law will change in the 2020
 17 Justice in Policing Act, it will change the
 18 word willfully to knowingly or with reckless
 19 disregard.
 20 I find it also interesting that I received
 21 an e-mail yesterday where the title of it was

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1 Talbot Dems. And they say in their e-mail I
 2 guess to their membership, it was forwarded to
 3 me by one of their members who was concerned
 4 about the bill, about this meeting tonight, and
 5 then they stated in their e-mail the sheriff's
 6 strong statements on this piece of legislation
 7 are based on an incorrect understanding. They
 8 go on to say the Justice in Policing Act would,
 9 one, establish a national standard for police;
 10 two, mandate data collection on police, both
 11 are true; three, reprogram existing funds to
 12 invest in the transformative community-based
 13 policing programs, which is true, this bill
 14 does address that; and four, streamline federal
 15 laws to prosecute excessive force and establish
 16 independent prosecutions for police
 17 investigations, which is also true.
 18 But I honestly don't know who wrote the
 19 e-mail, but I can only guess that they did not
 20 read the 134-page bill because they left out
 21 the part of taking qualified immunity away from

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1 local police but not federal law enforcement
 2 officers, as the bill reads.
 3 You probably don't know this, but there's
 4 over 66 federal law enforcement agencies in the
 5 United States. And this bill does not address
 6 them in this as far as qualified immunity. It
 7 does not take their qualified immunity away,
 8 but it takes the local police's qualified
 9 immunity away. Why is that?
 10 They also left out in the e-mail that the
 11 possible sentence for violation of this section
 12 is death, the death penalty. And that's in
 13 title 18242 that they modified with the word
 14 willful and three sentences down it talks about
 15 the death penalty.
 16 Again, I don't actually think any of our
 17 local friends read the entire bill, but are
 18 simply going with political talking points for
 19 political expediency. I would assume that the
 20 Talbot Dems author had no idea that a sentence
 21 of death could be imposed.

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1 When will we as a community start thinking
 2 for ourselves and not blindly support bills
 3 that have an R or a D next to them or a
 4 candidate that has an R or a D in front of
 5 their name?
 6 If I've been misunderstood, please help me
 7 know in an intelligent, well-researched way.
 8 In the handout that you'll be getting if
 9 you don't have it, I highlighted the word
 10 willfully because that's what they want to
 11 change in there. They didn't change death
 12 penalty, but they changed willfully.
 13 And right now the law says that willfully,
 14 if a police officer willfully would hurt
 15 somebody -- in fact, you don't even have to
 16 kill anybody to be sentenced to death as a
 17 police officer now under the new Justice in
 18 Policing Act. A death only has to be
 19 associated with your action. So you don't even
 20 have to commit murder with this.
 21 So it would be the only case in which a

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1 law enforcement officer or a citizen in the
 2 United States, not under federal law, under
 3 State law, because you can be put to death for
 4 treason, but had not committed a murder that a
 5 police officer could be put to death for.
 6 The bill actually says "for the purposes
 7 of this section, an act shall be considered to
 8 be death resulting if the act was a substantial
 9 factor contributing to the death of the
 10 person". So even if the victim wasn't
 11 murdered, a police officer could be tried,
 12 convicted, and sentenced to die by lethal
 13 injection in a case where the victim wasn't
 14 actually murdered.
 15 Again, I find it also interesting that the
 16 same political party that claims not to support
 17 the death penalty actually does support the
 18 execution of police officers that violate these
 19 sections.
 20 If anybody here is a police officer or
 21 related to a police officer, please stand for

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1 just a second and be acknowledged.
 2 So by supporting this bill, we conceivably
 3 would make it easier to put any one of these
 4 young men or young women in that case to death.
 5 Thank you.
 6 Ask yourself would the legislation provide
 7 the impetus for more qualified police
 8 applicants to walk into the Sheriff's Office
 9 door. Would this provide greater security for
 10 our citizens and police officers?
 11 Page six deals with qualified immunity
 12 reform. I'm not going to read the whole
 13 section of qualified immunity. It's a bit
 14 lengthy, but the reformers want to amend that
 15 law by adding at the end of the law it shall
 16 not be a defense for immunity to any action
 17 brought under this section against a local law
 18 enforcement officer or a State correctional
 19 officer, as defined in this title.
 20 It's pretty interesting when you go back
 21 to their definitions that we talked very

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1 briefly about earlier.
 2 But the law basically says the defendant
 3 was acting in good faith, believed reasonably
 4 or otherwise that his or her conduct was lawful
 5 at the time that the conduct was committed or,
 6 two, the rights, privileges or immunity secured
 7 by the Constitution and laws were not clearly
 8 established at the time of their deprivation by
 9 the law was otherwise such that the defendant
 10 could not reasonably have been expected to know
 11 whether his or her conduct was lawful.
 12 In order to really examine this part of
 13 the 134-page reform, we need to ask what the
 14 definition of local law enforcement officer is.
 15 Guess again, it doesn't include federal law
 16 enforcement officers. So they've exempted
 17 them. They've exempted federal law enforcement
 18 officers from this.
 19 State correctional officers have no
 20 definition in their definitions. So we can
 21 only assume that State correctional officers

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1 and it doesn't apply to your county detention
 2 officers, but it probably does, even though
 3 they never defined it in their bill.
 4 In their definition, local law enforcement
 5 officer means any officer, agent, or employee
 6 of the State or unit of local government. So
 7 basically it's your troopers, your police
 8 officers, and your deputies of the states and
 9 counties in the United States.
 10 I wonder why they didn't continue federal
 11 law enforcement officers in this new law. Does
 12 the House think that the federal law
 13 enforcement officers are perfect? One can only
 14 guess. But by doing five minutes of research,
 15 you can quickly find that a union represents
 16 26,000 of those federal law enforcement
 17 officers. And by all appearances on their
 18 website, they have a lobbyist in Washington,
 19 D.C. as well.
 20 If this bill was truly about police
 21 reform, why did they exempt them when it comes

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1 to qualified immunity? My guess is that they
 2 want their donations at reelection time. Do
 3 federal law enforcement officers from time to
 4 time violate people's rights? A quick check of
 5 Google finds a number of cases that you can
 6 quickly find that federal law enforcement
 7 officers violated people's rights.
 8 Talked about the State correctional
 9 officers. Again, they're very well
 10 represented. They're one of the most powerful
 11 unions in the country. So they're not in
 12 there. Conveniently, they're not in there.
 13 Anyway, but back on the main point. The
 14 change in qualified immunity is probably one of
 15 the most damaging points in this bill as it
 16 limits the rights of police officers to defend
 17 themselves in civil suits. As a quick
 18 reminder, the new law will not allow a police
 19 officer to use a defense that he or she was
 20 acting in good faith at the time his or her
 21 conduct -- I'm going to repeat it because it

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1 needs to be clear. As a quick reminder, the
 2 new law will not allow a police officer to use
 3 a defense that he or she was acting in good
 4 faith and that his or her conduct was lawful.
 5 Interesting to say the least.
 6 So to say an officer is being sued for
 7 say, I'm going to give you an example,
 8 arresting a drunk driver, who after being
 9 handcuffed, head butts the officer, which
 10 happens, and escapes custody and starts running
 11 away. The arrestee runs right into a path of a
 12 car and gets struck and killed.
 13 Under the new law, the officer being sued
 14 can't say in his or her defense that he was
 15 acting in good faith, that he was doing his job
 16 and he stopped the car legally, that he gave
 17 them the legal standardized field sobriety
 18 test, that he legally arrested him, that the
 19 officer was acting in good faith when the guy
 20 then head butted him as a prisoner and ran away
 21 and got struck by a car.

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1 Does anybody on this Council really
 2 believe that a police officer shouldn't be able
 3 to use that argument to keep from losing
 4 everything he or she worked for their whole
 5 life?
 6 Current law allows a citizen to sue a
 7 police officer. But it does not limit the
 8 officer in his or her defense. So you, as a
 9 citizen, can you make your own defense? I'm
 10 sorry. So you as a citizen, you can make your
 11 own defense, but a police officer is the only
 12 profession that's going to be limited in the
 13 defense they can have when they're being sued.
 14 In more simplistic terms, let's say Chuck
 15 Callahan builds a house and follows all Talbot
 16 County codes, building codes.
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: We hope.
 18 SHERIFF GAMBLE: Yeah, we hope so.
 19 A tornado comes through and destroys the
 20 home. The homeowner sues Chuck. If Chuck did,
 21 in fact, follow all the building codes, should

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1 he be able to say at his trial I followed all
 2 the codes of Talbot County? If it were true,
 3 he should be able to say it as a part of his
 4 defense. Of course, he should, just like a
 5 police officer who acts in good faith and his
 6 or her conduct was lawful.
 7 But using the same example, when Chuck's
 8 attorney brings up the fact that he followed
 9 all the building codes, the judge would have to
 10 stop him, his attorney, and say you cannot tell
 11 the jury that and you can't use that as a
 12 defense.
 13 Will this help policing in the United
 14 States or here in Talbot County? It will
 15 certainly help attorneys, as there will be more
 16 and more lawsuits will be filed. And we know
 17 that Congress is made up mostly of attorneys.
 18 But will this actually help our citizens to be
 19 safer? I don't think so.
 20 Police will stop all proactive policing.
 21 They will stop -- traffic stops will drop

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1 dramatically, deaths on the highways will rise,
 2 drug and drunk driving arrests will drop, even
 3 more deaths, violent drug trafficking
 4 organizations will flourish, those
 5 investigations will drop.
 6 Just take a look at Baltimore City.
 7 Arrests since the riots four years ago are down
 8 more than 80 percent in the city. Violent
 9 crime has risen dramatically and the homicide
 10 rate is through the roof in Baltimore City.
 11 Just in the last three weeks, New York
 12 shootings are up 600 percent over the same time
 13 period last year over a three-week period this
 14 year, 600 percent.
 15 I'm not going to bore you with the rest of
 16 the 100 or so pages, but these are my thoughts
 17 on what I think are the most important things
 18 that need to come out of that bill.
 19 You know you have the \$1.9 million budget
 20 modification that I submitted because that's
 21 what it would cost, between 1.2 and

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1 \$1.9 million in Talbot County if that bill
 2 passed in its entirety. Basically we will have
 3 deputies and police officers in training two
 4 and a half to three months a year. So we would
 5 have to hire more deputies. You can read
 6 through the budget modification to come in
 7 compliance with that proposed legislation.
 8 Where is that money going to come from?
 9 Schools, roads, parks, parks and rec?
 10 I would encourage you to reconsider the
 11 letter of support, then draft a letter and ask
 12 the House and Senate to actually work together.
 13 Seventy percent of their bill and 70 percent of
 14 the bill with the R behind it are very similar.
 15 I'd be glad, and I have sent it to some of
 16 you, some of the national police reforms that I
 17 believe should happen. I've sent this to some
 18 of you. Maybe I sent it to all of you. But if
 19 not, I'll resend it.
 20 But make them work together, tell them to
 21 do their jobs, work together, and hammer out a

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1 fair bill that will keep our entire community
 2 safe, our troopers, police officers, deputies,
 3 while holding the criminals accountable for the
 4 crime they commit.
 5 I don't know what their motivation was
 6 behind this bill, and I don't want to sit here
 7 and guess because I'll be criticized for that.
 8 I truly, I don't even know if they ever want to
 9 agree on anything up there because obviously
 10 they haven't tried to agree on anything.
 11 But Senator Scott's bill and this bill,
 12 about 60 to 70 percent of it is very similar,
 13 if they would sit down. And that's the letter
 14 you send, is encourage them to sit down and
 15 stop playing stupid games and do their frigging
 16 jobs.
 17 I'd be glad to answer any questions.
 18 MR. PACK: Well, Sheriff, I want to thank
 19 you for coming and giving your well thought out
 20 response.
 21 SHERIFF GAMBLE: Thank you.

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1 MR. PACK: I want to say this to you
 2 personally. My comments were not directed at
 3 you personally at all.
 4 We certainly value what you do here in
 5 this county. We certainly want to thank you
 6 for coming and giving your (inaudible) I'd like
 7 you to send the information to us as well
 8 regarding budget modifications, your
 9 perspective on national police reform.
 10 SHERIFF GAMBLE: Thank you, President
 11 Pack. Appreciate your time.
 12 MR. PACK: I do have my comments on the
 13 matter that I want to read to you as well.
 14 SHERIFF GAMBLE: You want me to stay here
 15 or you want me go back here?
 16 MR. PACK: You can have a seat.
 17 SHERIFF GAMBLE: I just spilled some
 18 water.
 19 MR. PACK: We'll get that, we'll get that.
 20 MS. PRICE: While you're getting
 21 organized, I just want to say that I'm happy to

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1 have been the one who knew that this was a bad
 2 idea. I don't pretend to know that I -- I did
 3 not read the entire bill, but I did know enough
 4 that the vast majority of the Senate and the
 5 House versions did overlap. I follow the news
 6 and all of that.
 7 So for you to just say that, again, that
 8 60 to 70 percent of the bill, that's exactly
 9 what I said three weeks ago and that we needed
 10 to let them work it out. And that's what I
 11 suggested three weeks ago. Let's let them work
 12 it out in Washington and then we'll come back
 13 and we'll support a bill. That's exactly what
 14 I said three weeks ago.
 15 And I'm glad that's what you just said
 16 because my gut was telling me that. My gut was
 17 telling me that. And sometimes you have to
 18 listen to that.
 19 So thank you for everything you do. I
 20 have always had the backs of our law
 21 enforcement and our paramedics and all the

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1 county staff. But you guys are -- it is
 2 priority and it always has been and I trust
 3 you.
 4 SHERIFF GAMBLE: Thank you.
 5 MS. PRICE: Thank you very much.
 6 SHERIFF GAMBLE: Thank you, Ms. Price.
 7 MR. PACK: I'll be brief with my
 8 statement. It's not that much.
 9 The comments I'm about to deliver are
 10 directed to those members of the County Council
 11 who voted in the affirmative on June 23rd
 12 legislative meeting for a letter to be sent to
 13 our federal delegation seeking their support
 14 for HR7120, the Justice in Policing Act of
 15 2020.
 16 As it pleased me initially to have your
 17 support for a national bill seeking police
 18 reform, it has come to my attention that
 19 several of the affirming members are now
 20 reconsidering your position on the matter
 21 before casting your vote on reconsideration of

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1 the letter.
 2 I would like to take a few moments to
 3 speak to you as to why national police reform
 4 is too important to me, as it is to many other
 5 people and persons of color in America.
 6 I would also like to express to each of
 7 you my sincere apology if at any time during
 8 the June 23rd meeting my words offended you.
 9 It was not my intention to make any of you feel
 10 pressured or urged to casting your vote. My
 11 words may have been delivered in a forceful
 12 manner, but at no time was I attempting to
 13 belittle or shame you to casting your vote for
 14 national police reform. I mean that sincerely.
 15 I had made my intentions clear to the
 16 Council and to the public during the June 9th
 17 meeting of my desire for a joint letter of
 18 support to HR7120. Right or wrong, I assumed
 19 that prior to the June 23rd meeting, that
 20 members of the Council would review the
 21 legislation and be prepared to discuss the

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1 merits of the Act.
 2 During the conversation surrounding the
 3 letter, it was suggested that Council seek the
 4 input of the sheriff prior to issuing the
 5 letter. My reaction to the suggestion was not
 6 an attempt to diminish the advice of the
 7 sheriff, but my reaction stemmed from my
 8 feeling that members of the Council did not
 9 understand the pains that persons of color have
 10 been subjected to at the hands of individuals
 11 sworn to protect them.
 12 If you recall in my address to Council on
 13 June 9th, I praised the sheriff for his actions
 14 here in Talbot County in recruiting people of
 15 color, his hiring of Deputy Brian Ortez, the
 16 first Spanish speaking officer in the
 17 department's history. My statement was not
 18 meant to diminish the role of the sheriff or
 19 the State's Attorney. On the contrary, I
 20 consider them both an invaluable part of this
 21 county.

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1 If you may recall during the March 10th
 2 Council meeting, a majority voted to send a
 3 letter of support to a proposed amendment on
 4 HB1300, a blueprint for Maryland's future.
 5 This legislation, as you know, deals with
 6 funding for Maryland schools. The Council's
 7 letter of support was affirmed without any
 8 input or consultation from the school
 9 superintendent. I'm sure that those affirming
 10 members of the Council were not showing any
 11 disrespect to the superintendent when casting
 12 their vote.
 13 My support for national police reform is
 14 not an emotional reaction or my yielding to the
 15 chants of protesters. My support is based on
 16 documented accounts of unarmed persons of color
 17 being killed by uniform officers that has been
 18 happening with increased frequency in my
 19 opinion.
 20 My support for police reform is based on
 21 my concern for the safety of my 30-year-old son

| | |
|--|--|
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| <p>1 living in Atlanta, my brothers living in</p> <p>2 Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Texas, and other</p> <p>3 family and friends who do not reside in</p> <p>4 Maryland but in states where police</p> <p>5 accountability and oversight are not as</p> <p>6 controlled and regulated as they are here in</p> <p>7 Maryland.</p> <p>8 My support for police reform is based on</p> <p>9 my desire to see the elimination of the use of</p> <p>10 chokeholds on citizens of any color.</p> <p>11 My support for police reform is to improve</p> <p>12 training on racial, religious, and</p> <p>13 discriminatory profiling by law enforcement.</p> <p>14 My support for police reform is for the</p> <p>15 establishment of a national police misconduct</p> <p>16 registry to root out individuals who are unfit</p> <p>17 to serve.</p> <p>18 My support for police reform is for the</p> <p>19 creation of local commissions or a task force</p> <p>20 to help communities to develop just and</p> <p>21 equitable public safety approaches.</p> | <p>1 of HR7120 was out of fear of being labeled</p> <p>2 intolerant or racially insensitive, I again</p> <p>3 respectfully ask that you reconsider your vote.</p> <p>4 And if your support for HR7120 was a show</p> <p>5 of respect for me, as humbling as that may be,</p> <p>6 I would again ask that you reconsider your</p> <p>7 vote.</p> <p>8 Concerning HR7120, it has been approved by</p> <p>9 the US House of Representatives and the</p> <p>10 legislation is now being sent to the US Senate,</p> <p>11 where its future is uncertain.</p> <p>12 Here in Maryland, the State legislature</p> <p>13 has convened a work group on police reform</p> <p>14 focused on accountability and transparency. I</p> <p>15 am sure that we can expect them to propose</p> <p>16 police reform legislation for the upcoming</p> <p>17 legislative session. Should this occur, it is</p> <p>18 my hope that this Council, as well as the</p> <p>19 Maryland Association of Counties, will take an</p> <p>20 active role in the creation and implementation</p> <p>21 of statewide police reform.</p> |
| Page 35 | Page 37 |
| <p>1 My support for police reform is to see</p> <p>2 mandatory use of force reporting for all police</p> <p>3 agencies across the nation.</p> <p>4 My support for police reform is to see</p> <p>5 neighborhoods and law enforcement work together</p> <p>6 to deal with those who perpetrate criminal</p> <p>7 behavior.</p> <p>8 My support for police reform is for the</p> <p>9 mandatory administrative leave for any police</p> <p>10 officer involved in the death of a citizen, for</p> <p>11 the officer's mental health wellbeing as well</p> <p>12 as for the healing of that community.</p> <p>13 But Councilmen, if your vote for HR7120</p> <p>14 was not out of a genuine concern for social</p> <p>15 reform, then I respectfully ask for you to</p> <p>16 reconsider.</p> <p>17 And Councilmen, if your vote for HR7120</p> <p>18 was not based on your understanding of the</p> <p>19 legislation, I again respectfully ask that you</p> <p>20 reconsider.</p> <p>21 And Councilmen, if your vote for support</p> | <p>1 Councilman leadership requires courage,</p> <p>2 and courage comes from our moral convictions</p> <p>3 and our moral center that binds us together and</p> <p>4 shapes our communities. When we know that</p> <p>5 something isn't right, it is our moral</p> <p>6 responsibility not just to speak up but to do</p> <p>7 what we can to fix it.</p> <p>8 So in closing, perhaps we need to develop</p> <p>9 more consistency when we are asked or are</p> <p>10 considering sending a letter regarding any</p> <p>11 pending State or federal legislations.</p> <p>12 I would again wish to apologize to any</p> <p>13 member of the Council who may have been</p> <p>14 offended by my actions.</p> <p>15 Yet with or without the support letter for</p> <p>16 HR7120, I personally will continue working,</p> <p>17 even across party lines if necessary, to see</p> <p>18 that national police reform in America becomes</p> <p>19 a reality. This is too important of an issue,</p> <p>20 and I will not and cannot stay silent when I</p> <p>21 know that we can be a better nation. I cannot</p> |

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1 and will not be silenced by fear or
 2 intimidation when I know that communities of
 3 color depend and rely on trustworthy and
 4 faithful community police officers.
 5 And that will be my statement on the
 6 matter.
 7 So if there is not any additional
 8 comments, Mr. Leshner, I believe your motion was
 9 seconded by Mr. Callahan. Is that correct?
 10 Okay.
 11 Madam Secretary, on the motion to
 12 reconsider, would you please call the roll.
 13 MS. PRICE: So is a -- explain the ayes
 14 and the nays on this one with the vote. If you
 15 vote aye, it means you're reconsidering not
 16 to --
 17 MR. PACK: Yes.
 18 MS. PRICE: And won't be sending a letter.
 19 Is that correct?
 20 MR. PACK: An aye vote will be you're
 21 supporting the motion to reconsider not sending

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1 the letter. All right.
 2 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 3 MR. PACK: I'll abstain from the vote.
 4 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 6 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 7 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 8 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 9 MR. LESHNER: Aye.
 10 MR. PACK: Do we have Mr. Divilio's vote?
 11 MR. KUPERSMITH: We do. Mr. Divilio votes
 12 aye.
 13 MR. PACK: Okay. So the letter, it is
 14 already in the public domain, as we know. But
 15 nothing official will go forward. We'll go
 16 back to where we were last week before the
 17 motion was even made to consider.
 18 Again, gentlemen, thank you very much. We
 19 appreciate all that you do. And Sheriff, we'll
 20 probably talk in the future as we hope to try
 21 to prepare what they're going to do in the

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1 State Senate regarding this.
 2 SHERIFF GAMBLE: (Inaudible). Thank you
 3 very much for your consideration.
 4 MR. PACK: Thank you.
 5 Council, next on your agenda, you have
 6 introduction of a resolution.
 7 Madam Secretary, if you want to wait for a
 8 moment. Madam Secretary, would you read the
 9 resolution, please.
 10 SECRETARY: An administrative resolution
 11 of the County Council for Talbot County,
 12 Maryland, requiring the development of a Talbot
 13 County diversity statement, providing for the
 14 inclusion of such statement in the county
 15 employee handbook, and requiring a written
 16 acknowledgment from each county employee and
 17 board, commission, and committee member that
 18 they have received, read, and understand the
 19 diversity statement.
 20 MR. PACK: Thank you very much, Madam
 21 Secretary.

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1 I had offered this resolution up to
 2 Council at our last meeting. I made mention of
 3 it back in our June 9th meeting that I would
 4 ask for consideration of this.
 5 I think that the creation of a diversity
 6 statement would speak volumes to this county as
 7 far as who we are and what we stand for and to
 8 make sure that persons who are hired by us
 9 understand that we are a county that supports
 10 diversity of all types, as well as on our
 11 boards and commissions, that they also, and I
 12 think this was at Mr. Divilio's urging, that
 13 they would also have to sign that they have
 14 read and understand what the diversity
 15 statement is.
 16 So the matter is now before Council for I
 17 guess reintroduction since it was introduced
 18 last week.
 19 MR. HOLLIS: And Council, I'd like to be
 20 on the record again fully supporting the
 21 development and inclusion of a diversity

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1 statement in the county handbook, as I was last
 2 meeting.
 3 MR. PACK: Thank you very much for your
 4 support, Mr. Hollis. Okay.
 5 The chair would now entertain a motion for
 6 the administrative resolution on diversity.
 7 MR. CALLAHAN: So moved.
 8 MR. PACK: A diversity statement.
 9 Moved by Mr. Callahan.
 10 MR. LESHER: Second.
 11 MR. PACK: Seconded by Mr. Leshner. And
 12 the chair would open the floor for any comment.
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes, I'd like to talk,
 14 Mr. President.
 15 MR. PACK: Sure.
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: I just want to talk about a
 17 diversity statement and what we talked about
 18 last time. I was not feeling that I knew
 19 enough about it.
 20 MR. PACK: Okay.
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: I felt like I wasn't ready

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1 to vote on it.
 2 Now that I've touched base with the county
 3 manager and HR, I feel very confident that we
 4 are headed in the right direction. I
 5 understand where we need to be at now. So I
 6 feel very confident that HR and the county
 7 manager, we have a team and a communication
 8 now.
 9 I felt like the communication wasn't quite
 10 there.
 11 MR. PACK: Okay.
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: So now I know the
 13 communication is there between HR and the
 14 Council and the manager and everybody is on
 15 board on what we want to do.
 16 So I'd like to have better communication
 17 next time with everybody understanding what
 18 we're voting on, and that way we won't run into
 19 this problem again.
 20 MR. PACK: That is so crucial we
 21 communicate and understand.

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1 Mr. Leshner, any comment from you?
 2 MR. LESHER: Look, this is simply a best
 3 practice in workplaces today.
 4 And to quote from a guide for this,
 5 minorities in majority-run organizations more
 6 frequently experience gaps in understanding the
 7 expectations and receiving constructive
 8 feedback, while also disproportionately lacking
 9 mentors and trusted supporters who will share
 10 the unwritten rules for success.
 11 Talbot County should simply align with
 12 leading workplaces elsewhere and develop such a
 13 policy. So I support this.
 14 MR. PACK: Any further comment before I
 15 call for the vote?
 16 MS. PRICE: Yes. So when we talked about
 17 diversity inclusion, meaning people of
 18 different educational backgrounds, levels of
 19 experience, females, minorities, veterans, and
 20 people with disabilities, I've always supported
 21 the county's commitment to diversity in our

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1 workforce, and I believe our commitment is
 2 evident in the relationships that we enjoy
 3 among all citizens in our county.
 4 Reinforcing this commitment to diversity,
 5 including it in our employee handbook, is
 6 consistent with our current employee code of
 7 conduct.
 8 I do believe that asking our county
 9 manager and director of human services to
 10 gather some language from other localities
 11 throughout the country for a statement is a
 12 really good starting point and an efficient
 13 beginning.
 14 I thank our HR director and our county
 15 manager for doing this research, and I'm
 16 encouraged that we are headed in the right
 17 direction.
 18 MR. PACK: Very good. Thank you,
 19 Ms. Price.
 20 If there's no further comment, Madam
 21 Secretary, will you please call the vote on the

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1 administrative resolution for a diversity
 2 statement.
 3 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 4 MR. PACK: Aye.
 5 SECRETARY: The administrative resolution
 6 was never actually introduced last time. You
 7 amended the wording to include board,
 8 commission, and committee member. But it was
 9 never actually introduced.
 10 MR. PACK: So the amendment was
 11 introduced.
 12 SECRETARY: Yes.
 13 MR. PACK: I just ask Mr. Callahan --
 14 okay.
 15 I need a vote for introduction. I
 16 apologize.
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: So moved.
 18 MR. PACK: For introduction.
 19 MR. LESHER: Second.
 20 MS. PRICE: We did that.
 21 SECRETARY: Now the vote.

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1 MR. PACK: I thought we just did that.
 2 I'm having a little Deja vu. I thought we took
 3 the vote before. Okay.
 4 Now would you please call the vote on the
 5 resolution as introduced.
 6 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 7 MR. PACK: Aye.
 8 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 10 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 11 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 12 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 13 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 14 MR. PACK: Mr. Divilio.
 15 MR. KUPERSMITH: Mr. Divilio votes aye.
 16 MR. PACK: Thank you very much, Council.
 17 And this is a great day for Talbot County
 18 as we move forward and working together,
 19 understanding each other, and communicating.
 20 So thank you very much for your vote.
 21 We are about 15 minutes late, but that's

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1 no big deal. Our public hearing is now about
 2 to undergo.
 3 I will ask anyone who is here to speak on
 4 Resolution 298, that was dealing with term
 5 limits. As the sole sponsor of that, I am
 6 asking Council to table that. So that will not
 7 be considered this evening.
 8 We have several items on the agenda here
 9 for public hearing. What I'm going to do is
 10 have Madam Secretary read each of the items for
 11 public hearing, bill number, then title. And
 12 when you come up, please give us your name.
 13 Let me just say for the record that I will
 14 no longer be asking for your address when you
 15 come to give testimony. I find that a bit
 16 unnecessary under the current climate that
 17 we're in. In speaking with the Office of Law,
 18 there's no legal bearing why we need to ask for
 19 your address.
 20 So whether you're a resident here in
 21 Talbot County or you come here recreationally

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1 or you work here nine, 12 hours a day but you
 2 lay your head down in Queen Anne or Caroline
 3 County, you are welcome. You are welcome to
 4 give testimony to this Council on matters
 5 related to this Council. So your residency
 6 here or not here will not preclude you from
 7 giving that comment. So I will no longer ask
 8 for your address.
 9 MS. PRICE: Mr. Pack, since he have the
 10 long list, there are a whole bunch that really
 11 are the capital ones.
 12 So my suggestion would be to do Bill 1447
 13 as a standalone and then maybe do all of the
 14 capital projects, which is item seven --
 15 MR. PACK: That's what I was going to go
 16 over, Ms. Price. Other than 1446, which we
 17 will not be taking action on tonight.
 18 MS. PRICE: But 1447 is the liquor license
 19 commissioner. So that's really separate than a
 20 capital item. Can we hold that one separate
 21 and then do all the capital together?

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1 MR. PACK: Is Ms. Lane here?
 2 MS. LANE: Yes.
 3 MR. PACK: We can do that. I'll separate
 4 that one out as well.
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Mr. Pack.
 6 MR. PACK: I didn't see her back there.
 7 MR. CALLAHAN: Can you make sure that
 8 everybody heard that?
 9 MR. PACK: Yes. Thank you very much,
 10 Mr. Callahan.
 11 MS. PRICE: I'm sorry. There is one
 12 other. That is the definition of single-family
 13 detached dwelling.
 14 So I guess what I'm suggesting is --
 15 MR. PACK: 1463, okay.
 16 MS. PRICE: Yeah. So C, 1448, all the way
 17 through P, 1461, should be one public hearing.
 18 MR. PACK: Right. Those are all the
 19 capital. We'll bind all those together and
 20 pull out the other three. That will work.
 21 Also for public record, Bill 1446, which

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1 is dealing with the short-term rental, will not
 2 be taken on tonight for vote. This is just the
 3 public hearing. We will not be voting on 1446
 4 tonight. We're just taking public comment on
 5 that tonight. Just want to make you aware that
 6 if you want to give your comment and leave,
 7 you're not going to miss anything because we're
 8 not going to be voting on 1446 tonight.
 9 So as the instruction is, Madam Secretary,
 10 you can read all the bills, but we're going to
 11 be taking some of these and pulling them out.
 12 But what I'll have her do is read all the
 13 bills that we're going to be going through
 14 tonight for public hearing by bill number and
 15 by title. And then we're going to segregate
 16 some of these bills out separately to have the
 17 public hearing on them. Okay.
 18 Don't worry, Mr. Hollis. I got it
 19 straight.
 20 SECRETARY: Bill Number 1447, a bill to
 21 amend chapter 11 of the Talbot County Code,

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1 alcoholic beverages, to allow the Board of
 2 Liquor License Commissioners to issue a license
 3 for on-premises consumption of beer to class
 4 five breweries and allow for local licensure
 5 for class six pub-breweries and class seven
 6 micro-breweries.
 7 MR. PACK: Let me stop you right there.
 8 Is anyone here to speak on Bill 1447?
 9 Anyone here to speak to 1447?
 10 Have we heard from Zach?
 11 MR. HOLLIS: So Mr. Pack, we do have some
 12 callers. I think Ms. Morris is handling that.
 13 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Pack, we do have several
 14 people attending the meeting. Mr. Zach Smith
 15 is not one of the identified people on.
 16 However, I will announce if you are on the
 17 Webex this evening and you do wish to speak, if
 18 you could send me a message if you're
 19 participating through the Webex computer portal
 20 and give me your name and which bills you wish
 21 to speak on, we can identify you by that way.

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1 Otherwise, I can open it up to the seven
 2 unidentified call-in users who may be wishing
 3 to speak.
 4 MR. PACK: Did you say that Mr. Smith was
 5 already identified as one of the callers?
 6 MS. MORRIS: He is not identified.
 7 MR. PACK: He is not identified.
 8 MS. MORRIS: Right. He could be one of
 9 the unidentified callers.
 10 MR. PACK: Well, why don't you find out if
 11 anyone there wants to speak on 1447 before we
 12 move on.
 13 MS. MORRIS: Okay. I am unmuting the
 14 call-in users. If you are on the phone and you
 15 wish to speak on Bill Number 1447 concerning
 16 class seven micro-breweries, the line is now
 17 open.
 18 SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)
 19 MS. MORRIS: Could you hold for just a
 20 moment, Mr. Moritz?
 21 Can everybody hear? This is Adrian

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1 Moritz.

2 MR. PACK: Can you turn the volume up on

3 that just a tad bit, please?

4 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Mortiz, the floor is

5 open. Could you speak up a little bit? We're

6 going to try and adjust the volume. Go ahead.

7 MR. MORITZ: Yes. I'm one of the owners

8 of Eastern Shore Brewing. And we are

9 100 percent in support of Bill 1447.

10 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Moritz is saying that he

11 is in support of Bill Number 14147.

12 MR. PACK: Thank you for calling in,

13 Mr. Moritz.

14 Anyone else on Bill 1447?

15 MR. SMITH: Yes, hi. This is Zach Smith.

16 MS. MORRIS: Yes, sir. Could you please

17 identify yourself by name?

18 MR. SMITH: Zach Smith.

19 MR. PACK: Oh, there's Zack. Okay.

20 MS. PRICE: Can you put that by your

21 microphone? I certainly cannot hear that.

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1 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Smith, could you go ahead

2 and speak? We're going to try and adjust the

3 volume.

4 MR. SMITH: Yes. (Inaudible.)

5 MR. PACK: Zach, we're going to boost your

6 volume up here. If you just give us just one

7 moment.

8 Thank you for calling in. We're certainly

9 anxious to hear your comment. But we want to

10 make sure that we have the audio at a level

11 where everyone could hear comfortably. So if

12 you just give us one moment here. We do

13 apologize for the delay.

14 MR. SMITH: You're welcome.

15 MR. PACK: Thank you, Zach.

16 MS. MORRIS: See if there's better.

17 MR. PACK: Zach, why don't you go ahead

18 and give us a sound check, please.

19 MR. SMITH: Yes. I'm here. Can you hear

20 me? Is it working?

21 MR. PACK: Yeah. I can hear you a bit.

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1 We'll try to boost it a little bit more.

2 MR. SMITH: Okay. I can try to speak up,

3 too.

4 MR. PACK: There you go. Thank you, Zach.

5 Go ahead, please.

6 MR. SMITH: Okay. Sure. Thank you,

7 President Pack, members of Council. I'm sorry

8 I can't be there in person this evening.

9 But nonetheless, Zach Smith on behalf of

10 Eastern Shore Brewing in St. Michael's. We

11 greatly appreciate the Council's willingness to

12 consider the proposed legislation, 1447.

13 As Council knows, this legislation was

14 introduced at the request of Eastern Shore

15 Brewing essentially to permit it to maintain

16 the status quo of its operation.

17 Eastern Shore Brewing was started back in

18 2008. At that time, the brewery had obtained a

19 license from the State of Maryland, class five

20 brewery license. And (inaudible) local

21 license, they didn't need it. Eastern Shore

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1 Brewing was told at that time that the local

2 license was not needed because the brewery was

3 already regulated by the State.

4 Since that time, Eastern Shore Brewing has

5 continued to operate in reliance on that

6 position.

7 Earlier this year, county staff contacted

8 us to say that in light of the current changes

9 to State law and the current operation of

10 Eastern Shore Brewing, a local liquor license

11 or what was called on-site permit was now

12 technically required.

13 Eastern Shore Brewing wants to follow the

14 law --

15 SPEAKER: Can you still hear?

16 MR. SMITH: I'm sorry?

17 MS. PRICE: This is not going to work.

18 MR. PACK: Continue on, Zach. We can hear

19 you.

20 MR. SMITH: Okay. Eastern Shore Brewing

21 certainly wants to follow the law and obtain

| | |
|---|---|
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| <p>1 the required permits, but the permit is not</p> <p>2 currently provided for in the county code.</p> <p>3 So this proposed legislation (inaudible)</p> <p>4 will simply create a local permit and authorize</p> <p>5 the county Liquor Board to issue such to the</p> <p>6 holder of a class five brewery license from the</p> <p>7 State of Maryland.</p> <p>8 This change will only impact licensed</p> <p>9 breweries, and I believe Eastern Shore Brewing</p> <p>10 is currently the only licensed brewery in</p> <p>11 Talbot County.</p> <p>12 This legislation is consistent with what</p> <p>13 other county councils in Maryland have enacted</p> <p>14 to support their local breweries. I believe</p> <p>15 this legislation essentially mirrors similar</p> <p>16 provisions in the Frederick County Code and is</p> <p>17 similar to other counties as well.</p> <p>18 And importantly, the adoption of this</p> <p>19 legislation is frankly necessary to allow</p> <p>20 Eastern Shore Brewing to continue its operation</p> <p>21 and really to maintain the status quo, which is</p> | <p>1 So we have at least ten enabling</p> <p>2 legislations here. So why don't we just go</p> <p>3 ahead and read those by number and name, title</p> <p>4 please.</p> <p>5 SECRETARY: Bill Number 1448, a bill to</p> <p>6 amend Bill Number 1366, the appropriation for</p> <p>7 improvements to Black Dog Alley.</p> <p>8 Bill Number 1449, a bill to authorize the</p> <p>9 replacement of the Easton High School football</p> <p>10 track.</p> <p>11 Bill Number 1450, to bill authorize a</p> <p>12 nutrient credit program.</p> <p>13 Bill Number 1451, a bill to authorize the</p> <p>14 purchase of additional security cameras for the</p> <p>15 St. Michael's High School.</p> <p>16 Bill Number 1452, a bill to amend Bill</p> <p>17 Number 1393, the appropriation for the</p> <p>18 development of Frederick Douglass Park on the</p> <p>19 Tuckahoe located at 13213 Lewistown Road, Queen</p> <p>20 Anne, Maryland.</p> <p>21 Bill Number 1453, a bill to amend Bill</p> |
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| <p>1 very important to us. And we urge the Council</p> <p>2 to support the bill.</p> <p>3 Again, thank you very much for your</p> <p>4 consideration.</p> <p>5 MR. PACK: Thank you very much, Zach.</p> <p>6 Anyone else on the call for comment on</p> <p>7 1447? Okay. Again, is there anyone here on</p> <p>8 1447, just to make sure? Okay. Thank you very</p> <p>9 much.</p> <p>10 Madam Secretary, would you continue</p> <p>11 reading the enabling bills by number and title,</p> <p>12 please.</p> <p>13 MR. LESHER: Mr. Pack, are we going to</p> <p>14 act?</p> <p>15 MR. PACK: I was going to go through all</p> <p>16 of them and come back.</p> <p>17 MS. PRICE: You want to just take care of</p> <p>18 that one, vote on that one so we don't get</p> <p>19 confused?</p> <p>20 MR. PACK: I'm not going to get confused.</p> <p>21 Okay. I'm not going to get confused.</p> | <p>1 Number 1404, the appropriation for a sewer</p> <p>2 system for the Ferry Point Marina and</p> <p>3 surrounding areas.</p> <p>4 Bill Number 1454, a bill to amend Bill</p> <p>5 Number 1430 and Bill Number 1362, the</p> <p>6 appropriation for the region two, St. Michael's</p> <p>7 sewer rehabilitation and improvements.</p> <p>8 Bill Number 1455, a bill to authorize the</p> <p>9 purchase and installation of a new telephone</p> <p>10 and public address system for the White Marsh</p> <p>11 Elementary School.</p> <p>12 Bill Number 1456, a bill to amend Bill</p> <p>13 Number 1420, the appropriation for the</p> <p>14 renovation of classrooms at the Easton</p> <p>15 Elementary School, Dobson building, for the</p> <p>16 Early Head Start Program.</p> <p>17 Bill Number 1457, a bill to amend Bill</p> <p>18 Number 1422, Bill Number 1335, and Bill Number</p> <p>19 1317, the appropriation for storm water</p> <p>20 management and upgrades of Goldsborough Neck</p> <p>21 Road and Airport Road.</p> |

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1 Bill Number 1458, a bill to authorize
 2 improvements to Skipton Creek Landing boat
 3 ramp.
 4 Bill Number 1459, a bill to authorize the
 5 resurfacing/repaving of the Easton High School
 6 parking lot.
 7 Bill Number 1460, a bill to authorize a
 8 gymnasium addition to the Talbot County
 9 Community Center.
 10 And Bill Number 1461, a bill to authorize
 11 the resurfacing/repaving of the St. Michael's
 12 school parking lot.
 13 MR. PACK: Thank you very much, Madam
 14 Secretary.
 15 These are all enabling bills. There will
 16 be no money spent on these bills at this time
 17 if they pass this evening. These just allow
 18 Council to have these items approved for
 19 further action to be taken down the road.
 20 MS. PRICE: After the public hearing
 21 portion, I would like to pull Bill 1450 out,

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1 the nutrient credit program, because that just
 2 kind of got lumped in. It doesn't seem really
 3 the same as voting on the high school track and
 4 some of those other things. And I really
 5 definitely --
 6 MR. PACK: It was introduced as part of
 7 enabling legislation. This was --
 8 MS. PRICE: I am asking that I want some
 9 more information on it. I'd like to have,
 10 whether that's Mr. Clarke is going to be coming
 11 in and address that --
 12 MR. PACK: Mr. Clarke unfortunately had a
 13 family emergency.
 14 MS. PRICE: I understand. Not tonight.
 15 I'm just saying I'm going to ask that that one
 16 not be voted on, Number 1450, not voted on this
 17 evening and keep the rest of them if you want
 18 together.
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: I've also had several
 20 watermen reach out to me that this is not a
 21 good bill.

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1 MR. PACK: This is not a good bill.
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: I have, yes, yup.
 3 Apparently, just apparently it has to do with
 4 the oysters. You're allowed a certain oyster
 5 and you can't do wild oysters.
 6 So it should be some of the watermen in
 7 front of us explaining this.
 8 MR. PACK: Are you sure they're talking
 9 about 1450?
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: Uh-huh.
 11 MR. PACK: This allows you to have
 12 nutrient credits.
 13 MS. PRICE: It's a trading program. So
 14 anyway, I just would like -- we can have the
 15 public hearing, but I'd like to push this to
 16 the next meeting for a vote.
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: So we probably need some
 18 more information on that, yup.
 19 MR. PACK: Okay. Again, Mr. Clarke,
 20 unfortunately, could not be here with us on
 21 that.

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: That's fine.
 2 MS. PRICE: That's okay.
 3 MR. PACK: To give us his comments on it.
 4 So the floor is now open for any public
 5 comment on these bills regarding the enabling
 6 legislation. Anyone wish to give comment?
 7 Could you give us your name and the bill
 8 number that you want to comment on? Any of the
 9 callers want to comment on any of the bills,
 10 Ms. Morris?
 11 MS. MORRIS: Nobody has written in that
 12 there are any bills that they would like to
 13 comment on.
 14 I can open it up to the call-in users
 15 again to see if anybody wishes to speak. I'm
 16 currently unmuting any of the call-in users to
 17 see if they wish to make any other comments on
 18 what we are calling our capital enabling bills
 19 which were just read into the record.
 20 If you do wish to speak, could you please
 21 identify yourself by name? Again, the floor is

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1 open for any of the call-in users to tonight's
 2 Talbot County Council meeting if you wish to
 3 make any comments on the capital enabling bills
 4 which were just read into the record.
 5 MR. PACK: No?
 6 MS. MORRIS: No comments.
 7 MR. PACK: Let's move forward. The next
 8 bill to be introduced for public hearing is
 9 Bill 1463.
 10 SECRETARY: Bill Number 1463, a bill to
 11 amend article three of chapter four of the
 12 Talbot County Code, development impact fees, to
 13 add new definitions for single-family detached
 14 dwelling and other residential.
 15 MR. PACK: Thank you very much, Madam
 16 Secretary.
 17 Anyone wish to speak on Bill 1463? Any
 18 callers wish to speak on Bill 1463?
 19 MS. MORRIS: Callers, if you would like to
 20 speak on Bill Number 1463, could you please
 21 identify yourself by name? The floor is open.

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1 MR. PACK: No? Okay.
 2 And Mr. Salinas, thank you for being here
 3 with us this evening. Do you have any comments
 4 on Bill 1463 where we just had public -- we are
 5 about to move on with it. But since you're
 6 here, I didn't know whether you wanted to give
 7 a brief comment on the bill.
 8 MR. SALINAS: I do. Thank you, Mr. Pack.
 9 And good evening, members of the Council.
 10 Just in preparation of the public hearing,
 11 I just wanted to briefly just go over it
 12 because we've been discussing changes to the
 13 STR regulations which have led to this draft of
 14 this, Bill 1446, since August of last year. So
 15 I just wanted to briefly remind the Council --
 16 MR. PACK: 1463.
 17 MR. SALINAS: I'm sorry. This is 1463?
 18 I'm sorry. Impact. No, I don't have any
 19 comment.
 20 MR. PACK: You might as well stay there.
 21 Don't leave because you're one bill ahead of

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1 me. Okay.
 2 Brent, good to see you. Do you have any
 3 comments on 1463?
 4 MR. GARNER: No, sir. Other than the
 5 changes we've shown you.
 6 MR. PACK: Okay. Mike, how are you doing?
 7 MR. DUELL: Good.
 8 MR. PACK: Anyone from staff on the bill?
 9 Just want to make sure.
 10 MS. PRICE: 1463 is just a change to the
 11 definitions. Doesn't change anything in our
 12 zoning code.
 13 MR. SALINAS: It doesn't.
 14 MR. KUPERSMITH: I can address it briefly.
 15 MR. PACK: We'll allow them to now --
 16 okay.
 17 MR. KUPERSMITH: So really all it does is,
 18 like you said, Ms. Price, it changes the
 19 definition. This is in the development impact
 20 fees ordinance.
 21 And so this carves out a slightly more

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1 specific definition related to certain types of
 2 residential dwellings. And we have two
 3 different types of residential dwellings
 4 pursuant to this bill, and they're different
 5 types of development impact fees depending on
 6 which one you qualify as.
 7 So I think you're going to get a lower
 8 development impact fee under this bill if
 9 you're building multiple small houses on a
 10 single lot. And that would be a type of
 11 affordable housing potentially. So this would
 12 have the net effect hopefully of encouraging
 13 some affordable housing, workforce housing in
 14 the county.
 15 MR. PACK: Okay. Thank you. And our last
 16 matter for public hearing tonight will be
 17 Bill --
 18 MR. LESHER: Mr. Pack, just a quick
 19 follow-up question to that.
 20 MR. PACK: Sure.
 21 MR. LESHER: The Planning Commission has

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1 not weighed in on this particular bill. Is
 2 that correct?
 3 MR. KUPERSMITH: I'll ask Mr. Salinas.
 4 MR. SALINAS: That is correct.
 5 MR. LESHHER: Is that because the nature of
 6 this is more financial than land use planning
 7 impacts?
 8 MR. SALINAS: Yeah. I believe under
 9 chapter 190, the Planning Commission weighs in
 10 on amendments to the text of that chapter,
 11 which is our zoning, land development, and
 12 subdivision ordinance.
 13 But this impact fee legislation is in a
 14 different chapter of the Talbot County Code.
 15 And so that's why the Planning Commission, this
 16 doesn't get referred to the Planning Commission
 17 for review and recommendation.
 18 MR. LESHHER: I know, of course, this would
 19 only, the collection of these impact fees would
 20 only affect new construction going forward.
 21 Do we have any examples of this type of

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1 development currently that if it were to be
 2 built now, would be subject to, would get
 3 relief from this particular legislation?
 4 MR. KUPERSMITH: There is a development
 5 that has been constructed or partially
 6 constructed. If you go past where the
 7 Department of Corrections is, there's a large
 8 lot back there where there have been several of
 9 these smaller single-family houses that have
 10 been built. I don't know if they're finished
 11 with that project.
 12 But if they have not finished and this
 13 bill becomes effective, then when they go to
 14 get a building permit for any of the remaining
 15 units, I think they could probably take
 16 advantage of this, and then if they're planning
 17 on doing any other developments like that.
 18 MR. SALINAS: Yeah. That is correct.
 19 None other than the one that Mr. Kupersmith
 20 referenced.
 21 MR. KUPERSMITH: And simply because the

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1 development occurs in a town, as opposed to the
 2 unincorporated area, developments that occur
 3 within the municipalities still are charged a
 4 county development impact fee. So they can
 5 take advantage of this legislation even if it's
 6 occurring within a town.
 7 MR. LESHHER: And we collect that because
 8 of the impact on schools, on road
 9 infrastructure. And obviously the town doesn't
 10 have any school costs. Those are borne by the
 11 county. And therefore, it's appropriate for us
 12 to collect impact fees for schools from in-town
 13 developments.
 14 MR. KUPERSMITH: That's correct. The
 15 development impact fees that we have on the
 16 books now were the product of an extensive
 17 study by an outside consultant who calculated
 18 all of the various costs that an average
 19 development would have on the various county
 20 services.
 21 And so that's where we have the fees, are

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1 drawn from that study.
 2 And even if it occurs within a town,
 3 you're still going to have an impact on the
 4 county services. The towns have their own
 5 impact fees as well that affect their services.
 6 MR. LESHHER: And is it the presumption
 7 under this that because these are smaller
 8 units, that each individual unit, if charged
 9 for individual impact fees, that would be a
 10 disproportionate burden beyond the sort of --
 11 the same as collected from one of these small
 12 units as from a 3,500, 4,500 square foot house?
 13 MR. KUPERSMITH: Yes.
 14 MR. LESHHER: And therefore, this is
 15 proportional. We presume that since these are
 16 very small units, one bedroom at most or
 17 something like that, that they're not going to
 18 put as many students in the schools or as many
 19 cars on the roads or as many of the other
 20 impacts that we collect fees for?
 21 MR. KUPERSMITH: Right. It's a more

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1 refined approach. Yeah.

2 MR. CALLAHAN: Mr. Leshner, I just want to

3 comment so you understand.

4 For the record, I'm the one doing the

5 workforce housing down the road that Tony is

6 talking about. So I'm building, so far I've

7 built five. And they're called tiny houses.

8 They're about 720 square feet.

9 MR. LESHER: Yeah. I remember when these

10 were approved.

11 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah, yeah. I'm doing that

12 project.

13 MS. PRICE: The tiny houses I see on HGTV

14 are not 700. They're like 200 feet.

15 MR. CALLAHAN: They're like 200.

16 So I really want to comment, too. I

17 appreciate you asking and clarifying that stuff

18 so people understand what we're doing.

19 But the ultimate goal is for the developer

20 to get relief so we can get what we've always

21 tried to do here with workforce housing and

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1 give them somewhat of a break and an incentive

2 to do these homes. You know what I mean?

3 Because they're two bedrooms. They're two

4 bedrooms, two bedrooms, one bath.

5 MS. PRICE: So back to Mr. Leshner's first

6 question, he asked if the Planning Commission

7 had weighed in yet.

8 MS. MORRIS: Excuse me. Mary Kay is

9 participating by phone. And she does have a

10 comment that she'd like to make.

11 Mary Kay, I believe I've unmuted you if

12 you'd like to go ahead and speak.

13 MS. VERDERY: This is Mary Kay. Can you

14 hear me?

15 MS. PRICE: No.

16 MR. PACK: Yes.

17 MS. MORRIS: Go ahead.

18 MS. VERDERY: Hello?

19 MR. PACK: We're here, Mary Kay. Go

20 ahead. We'll try to boost your volume. Go

21 ahead.

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1 MS. VERDERY: I just want to say

2 (inaudible) Miguel and Tony (inaudible) this is

3 for residential units on a single (inaudible)

4 units. Those units are townhouse or apartment.

5 So those residential units get a reduction in

6 the development impact fees. It's

7 approximately (inaudible) over a single-family

8 detached unit.

9 This will allow having multiple

10 single-family homes or a single parcel that are

11 each less than 1,200 square feet to take

12 advantage of the reduced impact fee.

13 And as Miguel had stated, the Planning

14 Commission is not required to make a

15 recommendation on this particular section --

16 MS. PRICE: I got to be honest with you.

17 I'm missing every other word she's saying. So

18 this is not helpful.

19 MS. LANE: Council, I think I understand

20 what she was trying to say, at least for part

21 of it.

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1 MS. PRICE: Thank you.

2 MS. VERDERY: Can you hear me better now?

3 MR. PACK: Ms. Lane is going to try to

4 summarize your statement, Ms. Verdery. Thank

5 you for joining us by phone. Just hold on for

6 one moment there.

7 MS. LANE: With the development impact fee

8 legislation, there are fees for single-family

9 homes and then there is another set of fees for

10 multi-family homes, which is normally townhomes

11 or duplexes, which are lower.

12 And I think what Ms. Verdery was trying to

13 say is that this is trying to do the same thing

14 that we do for the townhome situation for the

15 single-family homes because they're smaller

16 homes on a single lot to reduce their fees so

17 each house doesn't pay as high a fee. And this

18 structure will get those types of situations in

19 line with the townhome situation which we

20 currently have in the legislation.

21 And the other item she addressed was that

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1 the Planning Commission does not review this
 2 because it is in the taxation section of the
 3 code, not under the planning and zoning land
 4 use section of the code. I think that was
 5 what --
 6 MR. PACK: I remember when this first came
 7 up, brought to my attention, as you just said,
 8 Ms. Lane, that single-family dwellings did not
 9 get the reduction in impact fees. Only those
 10 townhomes or apartments would get that
 11 reduction. And there was nothing in our code
 12 to allow for single-family homes to receive
 13 that reduction in impact fees.
 14 So you're right. This 700 square foot
 15 house is paying comparable to what a 300,000
 16 square foot house would be paying.
 17 This would make it an even playing field.
 18 It will allow those small workforce units to be
 19 built on one lot and to receive the reduction
 20 in impact fees, the same as if you were in a
 21 700 square foot apartment. It's just trying to

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1 make it fair for those builders who are
 2 building single-family structures and not
 3 townhomes or duplexes.
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: But Mr. President, if we
 5 could, since Mr. Divilio is not here this week,
 6 could we hold off to the next meeting so he's
 7 here to understand what we're doing?
 8 I'm a little bit --
 9 MR. PACK: He didn't ask for this one to
 10 be set aside. He did ask for 1446 to be held.
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: I'm just a little sensitive
 12 because I am involved in that project.
 13 MR. PACK: You want to recuse yourself?
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: I'd like to, yes.
 15 MR. PACK: But he did leave a vote.
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: That's fine. Okay. If he
 17 did leave a vote, that's fine.
 18 MR. PACK: So you will be recusing?
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. I think I should,
 20 yeah.
 21 MR. PACK: So any other questions on 1463?

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1 I think between Miguel and Ms. Verdery and
 2 Ms. Lane, I think we got a good team there.
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup.
 4 MS. PRICE: So we've had all the public
 5 hearings except for the short-term rental,
 6 which we're not going to vote on.
 7 Can we go ahead and take care of the votes
 8 on the ones that we're going to so that we can
 9 clear our minds and listen to the short-term
 10 rentals?
 11 MR. PACK: Let's work our way backwards,
 12 if we could then. The most recent matter, so
 13 people won't forget what we just talked about,
 14 is 1463.
 15 The chair would entertain a motion to move
 16 that to third reader tonight.
 17 MS. PRICE: So moved.
 18 MR. PACK: Moved by Ms. Price.
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: Second.
 20 MR. PACK: Seconded by Mr. Callahan. Any
 21 questions on the motion to move to third reader

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1 on 1463?
 2 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, will you
 3 please read the bill a third time.
 4 SECRETARY: Bill Number 1463 --
 5 MS. PRICE: I ask that so much be
 6 considered a reading.
 7 MR. PACK: Any objection? Hearing none,
 8 1463 is now before the Council for final vote.
 9 MR. HOLLIS: Mr. President, I'm
 10 interrupting. I apologize.
 11 Mr. Callahan, you had indicated you were
 12 recusing yourself. So we'll need to have a
 13 different Council member second the motion.
 14 MR. PACK: Thank you very much.
 15 Procedurally.
 16 MR. LESHHER: I will second that.
 17 MR. PACK: Second is made by Mr. Leshher.
 18 Thank you very much.
 19 MR. KUPERSMITH: Mr. Pack, I'm sorry to
 20 interrupt. Ms. Morris has pointed out that we
 21 have not gotten public comment on that bill.

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1 MS. PRICE: Oh.
 2 MR. PACK: We didn't?
 3 MS. MORRIS: We brought Miguel up and then
 4 we got distracted.
 5 MR. PACK: You're right. Miguel come up
 6 and then we didn't go to public -- so I'm going
 7 to have to pull back those motions at the time.
 8 Do we have any callers on the phone for
 9 1463?
 10 MS. MORRIS: Callers, we are opening the
 11 line. If anybody wishes to speak on Bill
 12 Number 1463, could you please identify yourself
 13 by name? The floor is open.
 14 MR. PACK: Okay. Thank you. So we'll go
 15 ahead and close that on 1463. I got confused
 16 with Ms. Verdery calling in whether she was a
 17 caller or not.
 18 MS. PRICE: Motion to --
 19 MR. PACK: Motion is made by Ms. Price to
 20 go ahead and move 1463 to third reader.
 21 Procedurally it had to be seconded by

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1 Mr. Leshner.
 2 Bill 1463 is now before the Council for
 3 third reader. Madam Secretary, would you
 4 please read the bill.
 5 SECRETARY: A bill to amend --
 6 MS. PRICE: I ask that so much be
 7 considered a reading again.
 8 MR. PACK: Any objection to Ms. Price's
 9 motion?
 10 Hearing none, 1463 is now before the
 11 Council for final vote. Any comment on 1463
 12 before we go to final vote?
 13 My only comment would be I want to thank
 14 Ms. Verdery and Mr. Salinas for their work on
 15 this. There was a lot of input from a local
 16 builder regarding whether or not small
 17 single-family dwellings could get the tax
 18 credit or the impact fee credit that apartments
 19 and duplexes got here in the county. I thought
 20 that that was reasonable, that the smaller
 21 units would serve the same purpose to allow

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1 workforce persons to live in those small units
 2 and to contribute to the community, that they
 3 should be treated as the apartments are treated
 4 in the reduction of impact fees.
 5 So again, I just want to thank staff for
 6 their work on that and thank the local builders
 7 for giving their input on the drafting of this
 8 bill.
 9 With that being said, if there's no
 10 further comment on 1463, Madam Secretary,
 11 please call your roll.
 12 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 13 MR. PACK: Aye.
 14 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Abstain.
 16 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 17 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 18 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 19 MR. LESHNER: Aye.
 20 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.
 21 MR. KUPERSMITH: Mr. Divilio votes aye.

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1 MR. PACK: 1463 passed with one
 2 abstention.
 3 Madam Secretary, we're going to take the
 4 enabling legislation all together with the
 5 exception of 1450. There's a request to hold
 6 that off until the next Council meeting.
 7 So in the matter of 1448, 1449, 1451,
 8 1452, 1453, 1454, 1455, 1456, 1457, 1458, 1459,
 9 1460, and 1461, the chair would ask for a
 10 motion to move those to third reader.
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: So moved.
 12 MR. PACK: Moved by Mr. Callahan.
 13 MR. LESHNER: I'll second.
 14 MR. PACK: Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Any
 15 comment on the motion to move to third reader?
 16 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, on the
 17 motion to move to third reader, would you
 18 please call your roll.
 19 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 20 MR. PACK: Aye.
 21 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.

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| <p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>2 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.</p> <p>3 MS. PRICE: Aye.</p> <p>4 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.</p> <p>5 MR. LESHER: Aye.</p> <p>6 MR. PACK: For those matter, we're not</p> <p>7 going to read those bills again because I read</p> <p>8 it for the record. Those bills are now before</p> <p>9 the Council for third reader.</p> <p>10 Madam Secretary, I hate to do this to you,</p> <p>11 would you please read those bills.</p> <p>12 SECRETARY: Bill Number 1448 --</p> <p>13 MS. PRICE: I ask that so much be</p> <p>14 considered a reading.</p> <p>15 MR. PACK: Any objection? So we won't</p> <p>16 have to do this 15 times, is there any</p> <p>17 objection to Ms. Price's motion being</p> <p>18 considered for all of the bills I just read?</p> <p>19 No? Okay.</p> <p>20 MS. PRICE: I ask that so much be</p> <p>21 considered a reading of all of those bills.</p> | <p>1 we're not actually voting to spend money</p> <p>2 tonight, I'm comfortable at the moment.</p> <p>3 MR. PACK: Any further comment? Okay.</p> <p>4 Madam Secretary, please call the roll.</p> <p>5 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.</p> <p>6 MR. PACK: Aye.</p> <p>7 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>8 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>9 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.</p> <p>10 MS. PRICE: Aye.</p> <p>11 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.</p> <p>12 MR. LESHER: Aye.</p> <p>13 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.</p> <p>14 MR. KUPERSMITH: Mr. Divilio has left</p> <p>15 ballots. I'm just going to go through --</p> <p>16 MR. PACK: Please.</p> <p>17 MR. KUPERSMITH: -- the bills just for</p> <p>18 clarity of the record.</p> <p>19 MR. PACK: Thank you.</p> <p>20 MR. KUPERSMITH: Mr. Divilio votes aye on</p> <p>21 Bills 1448, 1449, 1451, 1452, 1453, 1454, 1455,</p> |
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| <p>1 MR. PACK: Thank you very much. Any</p> <p>2 objection to that? We won't have the secretary</p> <p>3 read those again.</p> <p>4 So all the bills I've just read are now</p> <p>5 before the Council for final vote, with the</p> <p>6 exception of 1450, which I did not read. Okay.</p> <p>7 Any further comment?</p> <p>8 MS. PRICE: The only comment that I would</p> <p>9 make on these right now is this is capital</p> <p>10 enabling legislation.</p> <p>11 We have no idea where our money and our</p> <p>12 revenues are going to end up. This does not</p> <p>13 give a final say-so on these projects. As</p> <p>14 these projects come up when we have a better</p> <p>15 handle on where our revenues are coming in, we</p> <p>16 may not be able to do all of these. And I hope</p> <p>17 that the Council will honestly think about that</p> <p>18 as we get further information throughout the</p> <p>19 fiscal year.</p> <p>20 So I just wanted to say that I have some</p> <p>21 trepidation about a few of these. But since</p> | <p>1 1456, 1457, 1458, 1459, and 1460. And 1461,</p> <p>2 excuse me.</p> <p>3 MR. PACK: Sixty and 61?</p> <p>4 MR. KUPERSMITH: Yes.</p> <p>5 MR. PACK: Thank you very much,</p> <p>6 Mr. Kupersmith.</p> <p>7 So with the exception of 1450, now let's</p> <p>8 move onto 1447. The chair would entertain a</p> <p>9 motion to move that to third reader.</p> <p>10 MR. LESHER: So moved.</p> <p>11 MR. PACK: Moved by Mr. Leshner.</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: Second it.</p> <p>13 MR. PACK: Seconded by Mr. Callahan. Any</p> <p>14 further discussion on the motion to move 1447</p> <p>15 to third reader tonight?</p> <p>16 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, on the</p> <p>17 motion to move to third reader, would you</p> <p>18 please call your roll.</p> <p>19 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.</p> <p>20 MR. PACK: Aye.</p> <p>21 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> |

| | | | |
|---------|--|---------|--|
| Page 90 | <p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>2 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.</p> <p>3 MS. PRICE: Aye.</p> <p>4 SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.</p> <p>5 MR. LESHHER: Aye.</p> <p>6 MR. PACK: Thank you. 1447 is now before</p> <p>7 the Council for third reader.</p> <p>8 Madam Secretary, would you please mind</p> <p>9 reading the bill.</p> <p>10 SECRETARY: Bill Number 1447 --</p> <p>11 MS. PRICE: I ask that so much be</p> <p>12 considered a reading.</p> <p>13 MR. PACK: Any objection to Ms. Price's</p> <p>14 motion?</p> <p>15 Hearing none, 1447 is before Council for</p> <p>16 final vote. Any other comments on 1447 before</p> <p>17 we take vote? Okay.</p> <p>18 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, please call</p> <p>19 your roll, 1447.</p> <p>20 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.</p> <p>21 MR. PACK: Aye.</p> | Page 92 | <p>1 improve and clarify the processes for licensure</p> <p>2 and oversight of short-term rentals in the</p> <p>3 county, and to amend the standards for safety</p> <p>4 for licensure.</p> <p>5 MR. PACK: Thank you, Madam Secretary.</p> <p>6 Mr. Salinas, we'll hear from you.</p> <p>7 MR. SALINAS: Thank you. I want to just</p> <p>8 walk the Council through how we got to Bill</p> <p>9 1446 that's in front of you.</p> <p>10 This process started last August. The</p> <p>11 Short-Term Rental Review Board held two work</p> <p>12 sessions in August of last year to give an</p> <p>13 opportunity to get public comment on potential</p> <p>14 changes to the STR regulations. In those two</p> <p>15 work sessions, they received over 90 written</p> <p>16 comments, I believe over 40 speakers spoke at</p> <p>17 those public meetings. And they held, the</p> <p>18 Board held two additional work sessions in</p> <p>19 September to discuss all the comments that they</p> <p>20 heard and consider those comments.</p> <p>21 And that resulted in a letter to the</p> |
| Page 91 | <p>1 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>3 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.</p> <p>4 MS. PRICE: Aye.</p> <p>5 SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.</p> <p>6 MR. LESHHER: Aye.</p> <p>7 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.</p> <p>8 MR. KUPERSMITH: Mr. Divilio votes aye.</p> <p>9 MR. PACK: Okay. 1447 passed. Thank you</p> <p>10 very much. Thanks for all those callers who</p> <p>11 weighed in on 1447 and for all the bills. We</p> <p>12 certainly appreciate your time and being with</p> <p>13 us tonight.</p> <p>14 The last bill we're going to have public</p> <p>15 hearing on tonight is 1446. Mr. Salinas is</p> <p>16 coming to the table to give us a brief comment</p> <p>17 after Ms. Moran reads the bill number and</p> <p>18 title.</p> <p>19 SECRETARY: Bill Number 1446, a bill to</p> <p>20 amend chapter 190 of the Talbot County Code,</p> <p>21 zoning, subdivision, and land development, to</p> | Page 93 | <p>1 County Council on November 14th, which offered</p> <p>2 up 24 specific recommended changes to the</p> <p>3 short-term rental regulations, which are</p> <p>4 actually in chapter 190, our zoning,</p> <p>5 subdivision, and land development ordinance.</p> <p>6 Not all the recommendations that they gave</p> <p>7 the County Council required legislative</p> <p>8 changes, but several did.</p> <p>9 The County Council then held two joint</p> <p>10 work sessions with the Board. One work session</p> <p>11 was in December, another work session was in</p> <p>12 January of this year. And in that</p> <p>13 consideration of those recommendations, as well</p> <p>14 as recommendations from the public that were</p> <p>15 not included in the Board's letter to the</p> <p>16 Council, the Council held straw poll votes.</p> <p>17 And the text of Bill Number 1446 is the outcome</p> <p>18 of those Council straw votes.</p> <p>19 I won't go over the bill itself, the</p> <p>20 details of the bill. I believe you have a</p> <p>21 one-page summary in Granicus that we provided</p> |

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1 you, which provided some bullet points on the
 2 bill itself.

3 But what I do want to say is that the
 4 Planning Commission held a public hearing this
 5 past Thursday. And the Planning Commission
 6 recommended on the vote of four to one
 7 approval -- recommended to the County Council
 8 approval of Bill 1446.

9 In the recommendations, the Commission
 10 asked the Council to consider three amendments
 11 to the bill.

12 The first one would be that the owner, the
 13 STR property owner or the license applicant, be
 14 present at new application hearings in front of
 15 the Board.

16 There's a matrix that was included with
 17 your STR package. In that matrix, it's noted
 18 that this was discussed by the County Council
 19 at one of the joint work sessions, and that
 20 recommendation failed two to three by the
 21 Council in their straw poll vote.

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1 The second recommendation that the
 2 Planning Commission had was to require
 3 notifications to property owners within
 4 1,000 feet, regardless of the zoning district
 5 that the STR property owner applicant resided
 6 in.

7 The draft bill right now for residential
 8 and village zoning districts provides for a
 9 reduction of the current regulation of
 10 1,000 feet down to 500 feet. That was also
 11 discussed by the County Council in their work
 12 session, and that resolution of reduction to
 13 500 feet was approved by the Council five O by
 14 a straw poll vote.

15 And then the third recommendation that the
 16 Planning Commission offered to the County
 17 Council was some amendments to the minimum
 18 safety standards that are included in this
 19 draft bill or in this bill.

20 Those recommendations actually came from
 21 staff. And those recommendations are intended

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1 to provide a little bit more specificity to
 2 those minimum safety standards because we do
 3 have third-party inspectors or we allow
 4 third-party International Code Certified
 5 inspectors to do those inspections on the
 6 applicants' homes. We wanted to be sure that
 7 there was more specificity in that language
 8 related to the minimum safety standards.

9 And so those are the three recommendations
 10 that the Planning Commission wanted to -- that
 11 they passed onto the County Council.

12 I want to note that I have Mike Duell
 13 here. He's our chief building official. And
 14 Brent Garner. I'm sorry. Mike Duell is our
 15 chief code enforcement office, and Brent
 16 Garner, our building official, are here in
 17 attendance in case you have any questions. I
 18 also want to let you know that, as you know,
 19 Mary Kay is on the line. I believe Scott Kane
 20 is on the line in case you have any questions.
 21 And Chip Councill, who is the chairman of the

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1 Planning Commission, he wanted me to relay to
 2 you that unfortunately he cannot be here in
 3 person. But if you do need to speak to him, he
 4 is available by phone.

5 MR. PACK: Thank you, Mr. Salinas.

6 The only thing that troubled me with the
 7 report that we got was that the recommendation
 8 from the Planning Commission were items that
 9 Council had already considered and already made
 10 decisions on. And they were either adding
 11 language back in that Council had already
 12 removed or rejecting language that Council had
 13 already approved. So I found that quite
 14 disturbing that the Planning Commission would
 15 do that.

16 I believe that their task was just whether
 17 or not the matter before them is consistent
 18 with the Comprehensive Plan. We have an STR
 19 Board, which is an arbitration board as well as
 20 an advisory board. And these matters were
 21 discussed with that board. And as you said,

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1 Mr. Salinas, when Council had its work session
 2 with them, those straw votes were taken.
 3 So I'm just a bit troubled, and I'll pass
 4 this onto the chairman, why matters were put
 5 back in that Council had already taken out or
 6 that the Council had already approved was then
 7 asked to be removed.
 8 MS. PRICE: I just want to make a comment
 9 on that. I mean they were just straw votes,
 10 and they were not binding votes.
 11 So I'm always happy to hear additional
 12 recommendations. Maybe we missed something.
 13 They might be coming at it from a different
 14 perspective than us or the STR Board. So
 15 whether we decide to include them or not, we
 16 can do it when we take our final vote, which
 17 won't be this evening.
 18 But I have no problem in hearing input
 19 from as many people as possible, especially the
 20 Planning Commission members, which go through
 21 quite a process to get on the Planning

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1 Commission. So I do appreciate their feedback
 2 on it.
 3 MR. PACK: Well, that's fine, Ms. Price.
 4 It's just that this doesn't fall within their
 5 scope of work, again, because it's outside
 6 their scope in my opinion.
 7 MR. LESHHER: Mr. Pack.
 8 MR. PACK: Yes.
 9 MR. LESHHER: Is it in order to introduce
 10 the amendment so that the public hearing can
 11 address the merits of the content of those
 12 amendments?
 13 MR. PACK: I don't think these were actual
 14 amendments. These were just submitted to us as
 15 suggestions. Someone would have to actually
 16 make these amendments. These aren't
 17 amendments.
 18 MR. LESHHER: So we have in the
 19 attachment --
 20 MR. PACK: They said they're proposed
 21 amendments. Someone would have to actually

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1 offer them up as amendments.
 2 MR. LESHHER: Would it be in order to do
 3 that now?
 4 MR. PACK: Yes. If you wanted to offer
 5 these up, you can offer amendments up at any
 6 time. It will probably be better to offer them
 7 up now as we go into the public hearing. But
 8 yes.
 9 MR. LESHHER: That way the public --
 10 MS. PRICE: Are they written out
 11 somewhere?
 12 MR. LESHHER: So if you go into the third
 13 attachment, the Planning Commission
 14 recommendations and related documents, it's a
 15 22-page document. And the last three pages are
 16 in green, which are the amendment to Bill 1446.
 17 Amendment one, the first one Mr. Salinas
 18 described as the operating guidelines for
 19 referring to the minimum safety standards as
 20 developed by staff, sort of further refinements
 21 on those.

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1 MR. PACK: This is under operation
 2 guidelines. Item number 9A, B, and C.
 3 Mr. Salinas, correct me, are these RFC
 4 language? Is this new language based on the
 5 RFC?
 6 MR. SALINAS: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to
 7 bring up Mr. Garner to answer that.
 8 MR. PACK: Yeah. Why don't we do that so
 9 I can know where this language is coming from.
 10 Brent, good to see you.
 11 MR. GARNER: Good evening.
 12 MR. PACK: Good evening. Brent, regarding
 13 going back to the handout we received, under
 14 9A, I'm sorry, 9B and C, the language that's
 15 added in, is that new language based on the RFC
 16 or where are we getting that language? Why is
 17 it now being added in?
 18 MR. GARNER: That language is through the
 19 IRC code book.
 20 MS. PRICE: Can you give me a page number
 21 on that, because it's 22 pages long?

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| Page 102 | Page 104 |
| <p>1 MR. LESHER: This would be pages 20 and 21</p> <p>2 of the attachment from the Planning Commission.</p> <p>3 Yup. There you go. It's nine, item B, item C,</p> <p>4 and then continuing on to the next page,</p> <p>5 there's some minor ones under D, E, and G.</p> <p>6 MS. PRICE: Smoke alarms, carbon monoxide,</p> <p>7 and rescue openings.</p> <p>8 MR. PACK: So this new language would be</p> <p>9 under item 9B, in the immediate vicinity of the</p> <p>10 bedrooms and on each additional floor of the</p> <p>11 dwelling, including basement and habitable</p> <p>12 attics, that there must be equipped with a</p> <p>13 interconnected smoke alarm in each bedroom.</p> <p>14 And then the added language would also be not</p> <p>15 only in the bedroom but also in the vicinity of</p> <p>16 the bedrooms and on each floor.</p> <p>17 You're talking about the hallway would</p> <p>18 also have a smoke detector?</p> <p>19 MR. GARNER: Yes, sir, that is correct.</p> <p>20 MR. PACK: And then also in the basement</p> <p>21 and then also in the attic?</p> | <p>1 you're adding -- this is what's required,</p> <p>2 you're just adding language so it's more</p> <p>3 understandable to people right now? It is not</p> <p>4 a change, it's not an increase in regulation?</p> <p>5 MR. CALLAHAN: It's a change because it's</p> <p>6 one thing, it's new. It's another thing if</p> <p>7 it's old and existing.</p> <p>8 So we have to be very sort of sensitive to</p> <p>9 older homes.</p> <p>10 MS. PRICE: Smoke alarms are not a big</p> <p>11 deal to add. Obviously they're connected.</p> <p>12 Do they -- it's nice to have</p> <p>13 interconnected because if one goes off down in</p> <p>14 the basement, it's going to ring upstairs. But</p> <p>15 if it is an older home, can you make an</p> <p>16 exception that yes, you have to have the smoke</p> <p>17 alarm in all these different places? But if</p> <p>18 you can't wire it down to the basement, that</p> <p>19 you at least have just a standalone smoke</p> <p>20 detector. Because those are cheap. They're</p> <p>21 ten bucks.</p> |
| Page 103 | Page 105 |
| <p>1 MR. GARNER: Habitable attic, yes.</p> <p>2 MR. PACK: Right.</p> <p>3 MR. SALINAS: Mr. Pack, I believe, and</p> <p>4 Mr. Garner, correct me if I'm wrong, that</p> <p>5 that's how we currently inspect those smoke</p> <p>6 alarms. So this just provides a little bit, 9B</p> <p>7 provides a little bit more specificity for</p> <p>8 anybody who reads it what they have to do.</p> <p>9 MR. CALLAHAN: When we had the work</p> <p>10 session back several months ago, I thought we</p> <p>11 were trying to get out of putting more language</p> <p>12 and more restrictions on things and making</p> <p>13 people do more stuff.</p> <p>14 Now we're adding all this stuff back in.</p> <p>15 So it's going to add just a lot of cost to</p> <p>16 everybody. I don't really see where that's --</p> <p>17 I think we were coming up with our own trying</p> <p>18 to stay out of the IRC, if I remember</p> <p>19 correctly.</p> <p>20 MS. PRICE: Question. If this is the way</p> <p>21 you're already inspecting, is it just that</p> | <p>1 Interconnected where. . .</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: In my opinion, we had it</p> <p>3 right the first time. And now we've added</p> <p>4 things in and kind of clogging it up a little</p> <p>5 bit.</p> <p>6 MR. LESHER: So now a question for staff.</p> <p>7 This legislation will remove the requirement</p> <p>8 for full compliance with all aspects of the</p> <p>9 International Residential Building Code. Is</p> <p>10 that correct? And substitutes these items,</p> <p>11 which are taken from that, these elements back</p> <p>12 in, in lieu of complete compliance with the</p> <p>13 IRC?</p> <p>14 MR. GARNER: That is correct.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: Right.</p> <p>16 MS. PRICE: I don't think we should have</p> <p>17 any problems with smoke detectors and carbon</p> <p>18 monoxide. I mean that's the first line of</p> <p>19 defense. I mean that to me is not changing</p> <p>20 huge window sizes and destroying the character</p> <p>21 of a house. I think we need smoke detectors</p> |

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1 and the carbon monoxide and they need to be
 2 connected. Whether you connect one down in the
 3 basement or not is not going to make or break
 4 anything.
 5 But I think sleeping areas and habitable
 6 areas, yeah, smoke detectors. These people are
 7 not familiar with these homes. They're only
 8 going to be there for three or four days.
 9 Smoke detectors and carbon monoxide,
 10 that's important. And I don't think we should
 11 take that standard down.
 12 The other stuff, I think we've made a lot
 13 of changes. I think when you brought us those
 14 safety standards as opposed to the IRC, I think
 15 a lot of those are fine and allows those more
 16 historic homes to not have to cut out a window
 17 and change that.
 18 But I think we should go with the smoke
 19 detectors and carbon monoxide. I think it's
 20 important.
 21 MR. PACK: So let me go back to 9C. 9C,

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1 as we originally wrote this, was to have the
 2 carbon monoxide monitors installed when
 3 fuel-fired appliances are present.
 4 Now we have quite a deal of additional
 5 language, the first being that it has to be
 6 interconnected carbon monoxide. Instead of it
 7 being monitors, it says alarms.
 8 Then it uses some of the same language
 9 that we find over in 9B, the alarm shall be
 10 installed outside each separate sleeping area
 11 in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms where
 12 fuel-burning appliance is located within a
 13 bedroom or its attached bedroom.
 14 It says the carbon monoxide alarm shall be
 15 installed within the bedroom. A combination
 16 carbon monoxide alarm and smoke detectors shall
 17 be permitted to be used in lieu of carbon
 18 monoxide alarms I guess separately.
 19 MS. PRICE: So you only have to have it in
 20 the bedroom if you've got a fuel-burning
 21 appliance in there.

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1 MR. GARNER: That is correct.
 2 MS. PRICE: Well, that makes sense then.
 3 If there's no. . .
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: So let me ask you
 5 something. Why can't we keep it the original
 6 when you have a carbon monoxide installed
 7 fuel-fired appliance and that's it? I mean why
 8 do we have to add all this extra to it?
 9 I'm just asking.
 10 MR. GARNER: Because we're not giving
 11 direction to anybody doing an inspection.
 12 You're leaving it open ended without specifying
 13 where and when they need to be installed and
 14 how.
 15 Just a broad statement just saying carbon
 16 monoxide alarms installed where fuel-fired
 17 appliances are present.
 18 Where is that? Is that just one in one
 19 part of the house?
 20 MS. PRICE: Right. I get it. They might
 21 think there just needs to be one, and if there

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1 is one in the bedrooms. So this is just saying
 2 if there's one in the bedroom, you got to put
 3 one there, too.
 4 Right. If you don't spell it out, it
 5 doesn't necessarily get done.
 6 MR. GARNER: Exactly.
 7 MS. PRICE: It's not necessarily more
 8 restrictive. It's clarification.
 9 MR. GARNER: Or it's open for
 10 interpretation by anybody.
 11 MS. PRICE: Right.
 12 MR. LESHAR: So you say you want to take
 13 some of the arbitrariness out of the inspection
 14 process?
 15 MR. GARNER: Correct. And give them
 16 direction.
 17 And the reason you have one on each floor
 18 is because of the danger that might be imposed
 19 by a problem on one floor versus the other. Or
 20 if you have an appliance that's in the bedroom,
 21 like a gas-fired. . .

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1 MR. PACK: Fireplace.
 2 MR. GARNER: Fireplace, and your only
 3 alarm is on the first floor, well, everybody is
 4 going to die on the second floor before that
 5 alarm goes off on the first floor.
 6 MR. PACK: Okay. See, that actually makes
 7 sense.
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Do you need one at all if
 9 you don't have any gas in the house or natural
 10 gas, do you need one at all?
 11 MR. GARNER: You do not, unless you have
 12 an attached garage. Reason being somebody
 13 leaves a car running, then it's attached to the
 14 house. And it's an odorless, deadly killer.
 15 MR. PACK: Okay. So let's jump over to
 16 kind of move this along. So you have on 9D,
 17 these look like they're just cleanups here,
 18 Miguel.
 19 MR. SALINAS: Correct.
 20 MR. PACK: You added the word width, a
 21 minimum width of 20 inches. On 9E, it looks

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1 like you changed exit to egress. Okay. That's
 2 fine.
 3 And then jumping down to 9G, you have some
 4 more cleanup. Secondary emergency exit. And
 5 again, change exit to egress.
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: When you change to egress,
 7 does that mean you have certain standards of
 8 measurements instead of escape?
 9 MR. GARNER: Correct. That's the way the
 10 code was written. But it was when you read
 11 what was originally put in there, it was
 12 jumping back and forth.
 13 All we did was clean it up to make it the
 14 same.
 15 MS. PRICE: Consistent language?
 16 MR. GARNER: The language. That's all it
 17 was.
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: So just so I can kind of
 19 understand what you're saying. What's the
 20 difference between escape and egress?
 21 MR. GARNER: Well, it's escape egress.

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1 What you're doing is you're -- with the
 2 changes, you're making the 30 inches wide in
 3 all locations. So it's just telling you that
 4 that's an egress or your escape area, how to
 5 get out.
 6 And the reason being is that was just
 7 taken out of the code book as a clarification
 8 to make the language the same as we did in G
 9 also.
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.
 11 MR. PACK: And the last one in J, it looks
 12 like you added two additional words here. It
 13 looks like roll-up ladders for use to exit a,
 14 and then you added escape opening window. I'm
 15 sorry, rescue opening window.
 16 MR. GARNER: Rescue opening.
 17 MR. PACK: Okay. So those are just some
 18 minor. . .
 19 MR. GARNER: They're terminology.
 20 MR. PACK: Minor edits to those pieces.
 21 All right.

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1 And of course, I gave my comment on the
 2 inclusion and removal of language that Council
 3 had already made decision on under 63.2.G,
 4 63.2.G2, and 63.3.A4.
 5 So Mr. Leshner, you're moving that all
 6 these amendments be --
 7 MR. LESHNER: I'm just asking to introduce
 8 them all.
 9 MR. PACK: You can do them by yourself.
 10 MR. LESHNER: I don't think we should vote
 11 on amendments until after we hear from the
 12 public.
 13 MR. PACK: You're absolutely right, you're
 14 absolutely right.
 15 So if there's no further question, the
 16 chair would ask for a show of hands for the
 17 introduction of the amendments.
 18 MS. PRICE: Hang on one second. Are we
 19 including the amendments that the Planning
 20 Commission is offering?
 21 MR. PACK: Yeah. We talked about those

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1 initially.

2 MS. PRICE: Right. But we are including

3 them now in the motion?

4 MR. PACK: Yes, yes. I just said we've

5 already talked about those. That's why I read

6 those separately.

7 So the chair would entertain a motion by a

8 show of hands for introduction of these

9 amendments. Of course, Mr. Divilio can't. By

10 Council, Madam Secretary.

11 So these amendments, for anyone coming up

12 to speak on 1446, these amendments are now open

13 for your comment.

14 Gentlemen, thank you very much for being

15 with us and adding your voice to it. Don't run

16 away. We'll probably be calling you back at

17 some point as comments start coming in.

18 So we're now going to move into the public

19 hearing of 1446. Again, there were these

20 additional amendments that was just introduced

21 by Council. And if you want to speak to those,

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1 you can.

2 And I will start with who we have in front

3 of us. And on the first row, anyone on my left

4 want to speak to 1446 STR? Yes, ma'am.

5 MS. REICHART: Me?

6 MR. PACK: Yes.

7 MS. REICHART: Yes, please.

8 MR. PACK: And just need your name, no

9 addresses please. We'll give you three minutes

10 on clock. I'm sorry I didn't go over all the

11 ground rules --

12 MS. REICHART: So I can just speak, I

13 can't ask questions or anything?

14 MR. PACK: You can ask questions. I don't

15 know if they're going to be answered. But you

16 can ask whatever you choose to ask. That

17 doesn't mean it's going to be answered. This

18 is a public hearing.

19 So we'll give you three minutes, and

20 Mr. Callahan has the clock.

21 MS. REICHART: Okay. My name is Cindy

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1 Reichart. I had questions on what we just

2 discussed. And that is I'm trying to

3 understand why the decision is made that for an

4 STR we care about all this safety, but for a

5 B&B we don't, but for a long-term rental, we

6 don't.

7 I don't understand what is the difference

8 that there are this many restrictions.

9 And I think I kind of know, because when

10 these things were all came about, the Planning

11 Commission, there was a gentleman by the name

12 of Jack Fisher who wrote a letter on 12/14/18,

13 open letter to the Council. He was totally

14 against STRs and said I don't even think these

15 are strict enough, we should do more.

16 And then when we heard the Planning and

17 Zoning people talk this week, there was four of

18 the five totally against STRs.

19 So I'm kind of getting the feeling here

20 that it's pretty lopsided and there's not

21 really anybody that's kind of trying to support

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1 STRs, who bring business to the county, who --

2 why are there are so many differences and

3 requirements for STRs versus for any other

4 kinds of accommodations in the county?

5 I can have a bed and breakfast right now.

6 I don't have to do any of the -- I don't have

7 to get my water tested, I don't have to get the

8 sewer inspected, I don't have to meet any of

9 these safety requirements, I don't have to do a

10 ton of all these things that cost the homeowner

11 money, that takes time, that eats up all the

12 staff and Planning and Zoning to run around and

13 get all this stuff.

14 I'm just trying to understand how did we

15 get to this situation where it's so strict for

16 an STR?

17 MR. PACK: I'll just take a moment. A bed

18 and breakfast requires that the homeowner be

19 present on the property.

20 MS. REICHART: Yup.

21 MR. PACK: An STR does not.

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1 When the last Council was considering the
 2 rewrite of the STR code, that was one of the
 3 things we considered, the fact that you're
 4 having people come into a property where they
 5 may not be aware of any hazards that the
 6 property may present.
 7 With a homeowner on premises at all times
 8 with a B&B, of course, the homeowner is there
 9 to make them aware of any issues on the
 10 property. That's one distinction between the
 11 two.
 12 A long-term, it's a distinction. You're
 13 asking. I'm giving you the rationale.
 14 MS. REICHART: Got you.
 15 MR. PACK: Whether you agree with it or
 16 not, I'm trying to give you the rationale.
 17 With a long-term rental, if someone is
 18 coming in as a nurse or as a visiting traveling
 19 doctor, they're going to be here for months at
 20 a time. So it's not where they are going to
 21 be -- you're going to have people coming in and

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1 coming out of the dwelling on a week-to-week
 2 basis, as you may have with an STR.
 3 So there are some distinct differences
 4 between a B&B, a long-term rental, and an STR.
 5 And that's my one-minute explanation.
 6 MS. REICHART: Got you. Am I out of time
 7 or am I still okay?
 8 MR. PACK: I don't know. Is she out of
 9 time?
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: You've got 30 seconds.
 11 MR. PACK: You've got 30 seconds.
 12 MS. REICHART: The other thing that is not
 13 the same as B&B, and I don't know why there was
 14 justification that this three-day minimum
 15 because people come to this county to enjoy the
 16 county on the weekend. Most people work. So
 17 they come on the weekend.
 18 STRs have to have three-day minimum. I
 19 don't understand the justification of that,
 20 either. It doesn't make sense to me.
 21 You want to bring people to the county.

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1 These are people that want to stay in homes and
 2 stay together. They don't really want to go
 3 three couples get three rooms in a hotel or
 4 three rooms in a bed and breakfast for that
 5 matter.
 6 So I'm trying to understand why -- I don't
 7 even understand how we got that 14 weeks on the
 8 other end, either. That kind of doesn't make
 9 sense. A bed and breakfast is 30 days maximum
 10 stay. So it kind of just doesn't make sense to
 11 me.
 12 MR. PACK: We had extensive comment about
 13 that as far as Council regarding the
 14 three-night minimum from the community.
 15 A lot of this that you're bringing up was
 16 covered during those public hearings and work
 17 sessions that Mr. Salinas referred to, which
 18 the previous Council and this Council held. So
 19 there was a lot of information about that in
 20 those public hearings.
 21 MS. REICHART: And it didn't make it to

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1 the -- there was a lot of people who came and
 2 said why are we having two nights, we'd really
 3 rather have two nights. But that didn't make
 4 it into a change in this document?
 5 MS. PRICE: Remember, this goes back to
 6 2018 with the last Council. And there was ad
 7 nauseam public hearings and lots of feedback.
 8 I don't think these -- if you want a
 9 change from 2018, then you ask for it. But to
 10 ask for clarification when we went through very
 11 long, months long process in 2018 for months
 12 and months and months going through all this,
 13 that's where it all came from --
 14 MS. REICHART: So that was 2018. So how
 15 do we now make a change? We're now in 2020.
 16 How do we change any of these things?
 17 MS. PRICE: You give public comments --
 18 MR. PACK: Again, that's where we are here
 19 today.
 20 We had a work session with the public with
 21 our STR Board. There were --

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1 MS. REICHART: I attended all of those.
 2 MR. PACK: -- matrix made up that we went
 3 through. As Mr. Salinas said, one matrix was
 4 just, this matrix alone is just public comment.
 5 This is not from the STR Board. This is all
 6 public comment.
 7 So this Council and the previous Council
 8 spent a lot of time on this. These aren't just
 9 numbers we pulled out of thin air. We listened
 10 to what people had to say, we listened to the
 11 STR Board, we listened to county staff, we
 12 listened to the public, and documents were
 13 drafted.
 14 So you're coming here today asking where
 15 did this come from, how did we here get. And
 16 Mr. Salinas was just explaining to you, this
 17 has been a long and arduous process.
 18 MS. REICHART: I attended all of those.
 19 But what I'm saying is I think that there
 20 were a lot of comments from pro STR people, if
 21 you want to say, that didn't make it to that

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1 matrix. And one of them was a lot of people
 2 commented on the two-day minimum, changing the
 3 two-day to a three-day.
 4 MS. PRICE: But there were an equal amount
 5 of people who wanted a week or two weeks. So
 6 we had to strike a balance and compromise.
 7 We're not -- not every side is going to get
 8 everything that they want to. You have to --
 9 MS. REICHART: Seems a little one sided,
 10 to be honest. That's all the comments I have.
 11 MR. PACK: Thank you.
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.
 13 MR. PACK: Anyone else on the second row
 14 on Bill 1446? No. Anyone on the third row on
 15 Bill 1446? I'm losing track. Fourth row?
 16 Yes, sir. Give us your name. We'll give
 17 you three minutes on the clock. Thank you.
 18 MR. WATTS: I'm with Talbot Vacation
 19 Advocates. May I have five minutes?
 20 MR. PACK: You may.
 21 MR. WATTS: Mr. Callahan, may I have a

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1 30-second warning when we get to. . .
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Sure.
 3 MR. WATTS: Thank you. I really
 4 appreciate it.
 5 MS. PRICE: And you can take your mask off
 6 to speak. It's a lot easier for us to
 7 understand.
 8 MR. WATTS: Oh, you'll be able to hear me.
 9 Don't worry. I appreciate that.
 10 MS. PRICE: Easier for the stenographer.
 11 MR. PACK: Whatever you're comfortable
 12 with, sir. We can hear you.
 13 MR. WATTS: My name is Keith Watts. I am
 14 with Talbot Vacation Advocates, and I would
 15 like to thank the Council for this opportunity
 16 to speak tonight. Mr. Leshner, Ms. Price,
 17 President Pack, Mr. Callahan, and Mr. Divilio.
 18 I see Mr. Garner is here, Mr. Hollis, and
 19 Mr. Kupersmith. All nice to see you. Chief
 20 Duell, pleasure.
 21 A couple of comments. It occurred to me

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1 that during the earlier testimony about egress
 2 that Mr. Garner was providing, PT Barnum once
 3 said this way to the egress. And he posted
 4 signs all through his museum. Nobody knew what
 5 egress meant. It was the exit. It was a way
 6 to move people through, except that no one knew
 7 what it meant.
 8 So I'm not sure that it really provides
 9 the clarification that you think it does.
 10 Maybe it provides clarification to the
 11 inspector. I'm not really so sure about that.
 12 I can tell you about a recent Short-Term
 13 Rental Review Board hearing where the
 14 application came before the Board. And what
 15 was noted was that this three bedrooms or was
 16 it four bedrooms. When the inspector came, he
 17 didn't pay attention to the fact that it was a
 18 room that was being used as an office, but it
 19 still, dimensions and space of a bedroom.
 20 And our fine president, Mr. Kane, told him
 21 well, you can either come back next year or

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1 we'll move forward with this as a three-bedroom
 2 property. Even though the dimensions were
 3 there and the inspector could see it and an
 4 inspection had already been scheduled to cure
 5 the defect. Yet Mr. Kane said no, I'm so
 6 sorry, we can't do that for you, it's either
 7 this or nothing at all, come back next year,
 8 come back next year and we'll have the
 9 inspection then.

10 I don't think that any of the people who
 11 are sitting up on that dais today, I don't
 12 believe that that is your intention. I don't
 13 believe that some of the things that the public
 14 has asked for -- and listen, I am all about you
 15 folks having a long, arduous process. There's
 16 no question about that. There's no need to go
 17 back and forth about how many work sessions
 18 there were.

19 What the previous speaker talked about
 20 things not making it into the matrix, that's a
 21 fact. They didn't get in there. There may

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1 have been comment about it. There simply is no
 2 way to justify -- I respect the comment well,
 3 we needed to reach some sort of compromise
 4 between two weeks and a one day, so we made it
 5 three days. How is that practically applied as
 6 one -- that's what one has to ask yourself.
 7 How does that practically apply to the real
 8 world, not the netherworld, all right, but the
 9 real world.

10 How does that affect Talbot County every
 11 day? How does it affect the people who are
 12 coming to this county and spending money? They
 13 don't have three days. They have a two-day
 14 weekend.

15 If you're thinking about giving people
 16 three weeks, or three days rather, that's fine.
 17 Not good for the county. It's not how reality
 18 works. It doesn't help the businesses. It
 19 doesn't help the landscapers, the pool people,
 20 it doesn't help anybody.

21 This is something that was -- look, there

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1 are some people apparently who are in it to win
 2 it. I don't know what their beef is. I don't
 3 know why they don't like short-term rentals.
 4 May they live next to one, maybe they don't.
 5 But we don't take a broad brush and -- sorry
 6 about that. You do that one more time, you're
 7 going to get out of here. You don't take a
 8 broad brush and paint it right, then everyone
 9 is bad.

10 Why do we proceed from the point of view
 11 that all STR -- you assume the worst about
 12 them. Like the barbarians at the gates.
 13 (Inaudible) up the Miles Rivers, burning and
 14 pillaging.

15 You can have Chief Duell come up and tell
 16 you how many fires have we had where people
 17 didn't know how to get out.

18 You're talking about long-term renters.
 19 Oh, well, they're there for months at a time.
 20 I grant you that. That's absolutely true.
 21 What about the first three or four days that

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1 they're there, what if there's a fire then.
 2 It's the same thing. They're not familiar. So
 3 the familiarity argument -- I understand the
 4 safety issues, but to Honorable Callahan's
 5 point, a former fireman, if I'm not mistaken,
 6 or maybe still a fireman. A fireman, who would
 7 be an expert I might add, who might know a
 8 little something about entering and egress.

9 MR. CALLAHAN: Thirty seconds, Mr. Watts.
 10 MR. WATTS: Thank you.

11 Look, the devil in is the details. The
 12 public never saw what was just sent to the
 13 Council, to President Pack's point. It's very
 14 disturbing to the public when things are added
 15 at the last minute and we don't have a chance
 16 to see it. We don't even see this language.
 17 We claim it's a clarification, but we don't see
 18 it.

19 The devil in the details. Two-night
 20 minimums. Fix the occupancy. That's absurd.
 21 Okay. Only two people per bedroom can be on

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1 the property at all times. So when the mail is
 2 delivered, if you already got four renters
 3 there, sorry, that's a violation. Chief Duell,
 4 write the \$500 ticket.
 5 Oh, one last thing. Flexibility. I agree
 6 with Councilperson Leshner. He says well, why
 7 not have flexibility. Don't we want the
 8 flexibility to not suspend the license for 12
 9 months. Right. I think that's a fabulous
 10 idea, fabulous.
 11 Why is it that we insert the flexibility
 12 there but we don't insert the word may? Right.
 13 The same word that may enforce flexibility for
 14 the 12 months. Why don't we insert the may,
 15 okay, with respect to the \$500 fine?
 16 I would suggest to you when Chief Gamble
 17 sat here and said about the 134-page bill, read
 18 the bill. Read the 14-page bill, go through it
 19 line by line, and I beg you, have a work
 20 session where the public can comment to you
 21 directly line by line. I guaranty you you will

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1 find things in that bill that will surprise you
 2 and that will make no sense to you and other
 3 things will make perfect sense to you.
 4 And we're very (inaudible). Who can argue
 5 against safety? Right. But when, as
 6 Mr. Callahan pointed out, you start having all
 7 sorts of things in there and more and more and
 8 more.
 9 One last point. A complete, the word
 10 complete was added, a complete application.
 11 And Mr. Kane had a big point out of that.
 12 Well, this application is not complete. So you
 13 know what that means, push the eject button.
 14 Good-bye, Charlie, come back next year.
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: We're about done,
 16 Mr. Watts.
 17 MR. WATTS: Thank you very much. I yield
 18 my time. It's a pleasure to meet you all in
 19 person.
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.
 21 MR. PACK: Thank you, Mr. Watts.

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1 Anyone else on my left for 1446?
 2 Ms. Morris, do we have any callers on the
 3 line for 1446?
 4 MS. MORRIS: Yes. We have two people that
 5 have identified that they wish to speak.
 6 The first is Woody and Gussie Dunstan.
 7 I'll find them in the system.
 8 MR. PACK: So we'll give them three
 9 minutes on the clock. Are they ready?
 10 MS. MORRIS: They would each like to
 11 speak.
 12 MR. PACK: Okay. So we'll give them three
 13 minutes each to speak. So who is first?
 14 MS. MORRIS: Mr. and Mrs. Dunstan, can you
 15 hear me?
 16 MR. DUNSTAN: So if we could ask for six
 17 minutes. I don't know (inaudible).
 18 MR. PACK: I'll give one of you three and
 19 then the other one three. So who is going
 20 first?
 21 MR. DUNSTAN: We have prepared comments,

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1 but we are owners and we would like to give you
 2 a perspective as an owner. Hopefully at the
 3 end of our comments you will understand why
 4 it's particularly onerous for owners to, for
 5 example, be present at every meeting.
 6 We are State Department diplomats serving
 7 our country in Turkey, and prior to that, in
 8 Serbia last year. We cannot be at meetings.
 9 In any case, Honorable County Council
 10 Members, first and foremost, a 15-year resident
 11 of Talbot County. Thank you for the decisions
 12 that you have made and still make to ensure
 13 that our county (inaudible) COVID-19 crisis is
 14 (inaudible)and balanced. (Inaudible) in our
 15 county. We hope that Talbot County stays the
 16 course (inaudible).
 17 We also respectfully ask that Talbot
 18 County Council not pass Bill Number 1446, which
 19 would surely and permanently limit access to
 20 our county and be to the detriment of vast
 21 number of businesses dependent on tourism. As

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1 well, it will definitely (inaudible) homeowners
 2 like us, who need the income to provide ongoing
 3 economic stress.
 4 We move to Talbot County in 2006 and live
 5 on Church Neck Road in St. Michael's. That
 6 home is our only home and property. We are a
 7 foreign service family and, therefore, posted
 8 overseas. Last year, we returned from a
 9 three-year tour of duty in (inaudible) Serbia.
 10 Last August (inaudible) order to Turkey for two
 11 to three years.
 12 For medical reasons, we temporarily got
 13 out of Turkey in May and serendipitously were
 14 able to enjoy our home in St. Michael's for a
 15 couple of weeks in July.
 16 We have three children, one college
 17 graduate last year, one in college, and one a
 18 rising ninth grader. While we saved via a 529
 19 plan for college all of their lives, the
 20 ever-accelerating tuition cost has been very
 21 hard (inaudible). We are halfway.

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1 Boston University, where our daughter is a
 2 junior, raised the cost of tuition and room and
 3 board of by 3.6 percent next semester to
 4 \$72,000 for the next year.
 5 Last year, to meet that tuition, we made
 6 the very difficult choice to rent our home, our
 7 one and only home, during tourism season. This
 8 allows us to return to St. Michael's during
 9 official R&Rs from our assignments in Turkey.
 10 For example, at Thanksgiving and Christmas.
 11 It is the only way we can afford the
 12 (inaudible) high cost of college tuition.
 13 As Miguel Salinas can attest to, thank
 14 you, Miguel, for your help last year, when we
 15 first made an application in February 2019 to
 16 participate in the STR program, it took half a
 17 year to finally get our permit. As you know,
 18 Talbot County radically and hastily changed the
 19 rules for short-term rentals last year.
 20 Apparently an overreaction to isolated
 21 complaints of seasonal rentals going bad.

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1 Our agent, Eastern Shore Vacations, and we
 2 began the process many months prior with the
 3 application fees, registered letter campaign,
 4 as instructed. By the time our permit was
 5 approved, it was July, too late to take
 6 advantage of summer rentals. We had two
 7 rentals, barely recouping the cost of
 8 participation.
 9 This year has been successful by far, and
 10 we (inaudible) semester, one semester, tuition.
 11 But we are now horrified that Bill 1446 is
 12 on the table. Once again, we find ourselves
 13 (inaudible) prior property owners in the
 14 predicament of pleading with Talbot County --
 15 just a minute -- to consider our very difficult
 16 case of trying to generate some income from our
 17 personal property.
 18 My wife, Gussie.
 19 MR. PACK: Thank you.
 20 MRS. DUNSTAN: We have three points.
 21 First, we sincerely believe that the

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1 repeated attacks on STRs and the result of some
 2 (inaudible) about STR property owners and their
 3 renters, which is unfounded and unfair. But we
 4 have personally -- but we personally have to
 5 defend against when applying for a permit.
 6 It is (inaudible) view. For example, a
 7 prominent resident of Talbot County, whose name
 8 begins with D and is from a wealthy chemical
 9 company (inaudible), wrote a letter protesting
 10 our application. This person (inaudible) about
 11 our home, which she's never seen, etc., which
 12 are absolutely inaccurate. She doesn't live
 13 within ten miles of us, and we have never met
 14 her. Yet we believe, for example, it's typical
 15 of those protesting STRs, is they (inaudible)
 16 against --
 17 MR. DUNSTAN: -- descending on Talbot
 18 County, disrupting our quiet corner of the
 19 Chesapeake, and leaving --
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: You have 30 seconds left.
 21 MR. DUNSTAN: The reality is that both of

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1 us moved to Talbot County do so because we fell
 2 in love with this fabulous place (inaudible).
 3 Then once smitten, goes to invest in a home and
 4 move here.
 5 Ninety percent of our neighbors within a
 6 mile of our house (inaudible). Many, including
 7 us, use STRs as a reasonably priced way of
 8 experiencing life here before committing.
 9 MS. MORRIS: We understand that, as with
 10 any human endeavor, there are occasionally bad
 11 apples.
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Could you wrap it up,
 13 please? Your time is up, please.
 14 MR. DUNSTAN: It's clear that homeowners
 15 are not getting -- okay. You will give us our
 16 time, but please listen for a second because
 17 it's clear that homeowners are not (inaudible)
 18 participate enough.
 19 You have all of these mountains of
 20 meetings that you referred to earlier. But
 21 keep in mind, by definition we are not able to

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1 be present. We serve our country overseas as
 2 diplomats.
 3 And I ask for another minute to remind you
 4 that it's fine. Any homeowner or agent who has
 5 a bad apple renting, absolutely their permit
 6 should be removed. But at the end of the day,
 7 it's the homeowner that takes the risk. It's
 8 the homeowner who pays the fees and taxes. And
 9 all of these new rules cost the homeowners, as
 10 well as Talbot County businesses by the way.
 11 MR. PACK: Mr. Dunstan, I'm going to have
 12 to stop you right there. Thank you very much
 13 for your comments, you and Mrs. Dunstan. Thank
 14 you for your service to this country.
 15 We do advertise all of our public hearings
 16 well in advance to make sure that even persons
 17 who are not in the county at the time of the
 18 public can either send us written comment. We
 19 oftentimes even extend that public comment
 20 period to allow for additional written comment,
 21 which is given just the same amount of weight

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1 as if someone was coming before us.
 2 So Council does try to give proper and
 3 advance notice of any and all of our public
 4 hearings to make sure persons can give either
 5 written comment or be with us in person.
 6 Ms. Morris, is there anyone else on the
 7 call?
 8 MS. MORRIS: Yes. The next caller is a
 9 Ms. Annette Miller.
 10 MR. PACK: Okay.
 11 MS. MORRIS: Ms. Miller, can you hear us?
 12 MS. MILLER: Yes. Thank you for the
 13 opportunity to speak. And I just thank you
 14 that you said that you're not going to vote on
 15 this tonight.
 16 MR. PACK: Correct.
 17 MS. MILLER: Because this is really
 18 important.
 19 My husband and I are STR owners and we are
 20 members of the Talbot Vacation Advocacy Group.
 21 We support all of the comments that have gone

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1 on behalf of our group.
 2 We are long-time vacationers of Talbot
 3 County, and we're fairly new owners. We bought
 4 our home after floating in a pool at an STR
 5 that we rented two summers ago. We ended up
 6 buying in the same neighborhood, not because we
 7 planned on it. But we just were incredibly
 8 blessed to find a home that we spent a lot of
 9 blood, sweat, and tears on restoring.
 10 It had been on the market for ten years
 11 and it had fallen into disrepair. And we have
 12 just through the grace of God and the help of
 13 others been able to turn it into a lovely home.
 14 We bought this home to retire to, we hope
 15 in the near future. And in the meantime, like
 16 the couple that just spoke, we are not wealthy
 17 people. We are very hard working former
 18 farmers, and we just have come to love Talbot
 19 County and that is where we want to live out
 20 our retirement years, God willing.
 21 However, through all the things that we've

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1 gone through in getting our license and going
 2 through hearings, it's been very difficult.
 3 And it's also been in some levels humiliating.
 4 Some of the comments that were made about how
 5 much we spent on our home, how cheaply we got
 6 it and that we can afford to make all these
 7 changes that we're putting -- being put before
 8 us. We're just a little bit humiliated and
 9 discouraging to us.
 10 And to see these changes continuing to
 11 take place and language being added in that we
 12 don't even have time to see, let alone comment
 13 on, is also very difficult for all of us to
 14 stay on top of.
 15 We have a lot of concerns. There's a lot
 16 of things going on with the changes with going
 17 back to possibly 1,000-foot notification. We
 18 sent no less than 54 letters twice for our
 19 application. It was very costly. And it upset
 20 some neighbors who don't even live close to us,
 21 people that we don't impact at all. We have a

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1 very private location. We're on three acres on
 2 the water.
 3 So that's been -- the whole process is
 4 very onerous, as someone else had mentioned.
 5 And then having to put a sign in the yard to
 6 announce that we were applying for this and
 7 having the hearing and putting it on a home
 8 that is (inaudible), it kind of puts out a sign
 9 that we are empty at times. And I feel like
 10 especially in these day and ages, that's a huge
 11 security issue.
 12 One of the other issues that causes me to
 13 lose sleep is this 12-person occupancy, or the
 14 two person per bedroom. We have a four-bedroom
 15 home. That means we can rent to eight people.
 16 Sometimes that's just a family, grandparents,
 17 children, and parents.
 18 But we have two guys come and mow our yard
 19 on a weekly basis, and I think our neighbors
 20 would object if we didn't do that. So when we
 21 are full capacity and they show up, we're out

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1 of compliance and the neighbor could turn us in
 2 and cause us a really large fine in that case.
 3 We have a pool that has to be maintained. Any
 4 other maintenance we have to have done always
 5 puts us at jeopardy.
 6 And I'm also asking, too, that the
 7 two-night --
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: We have to wrap it up,
 9 Ms. Miller. If we could wrap it up, I'd
 10 appreciate it.
 11 MS. MILLER: Yes. Thank you very much.
 12 So we are all about having things
 13 regulated. You have to regulate things. But
 14 we're asking for fair and reasonable regulation
 15 based on facts and not emotion, not fear of
 16 things that are (inaudible) not happening.
 17 Thank you so much for the opportunity to
 18 speak and to listen to us, and I just ask that
 19 this bill would not be passed as is and there
 20 be more opportunity for further comment. Thank
 21 you very much.

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1 MR. PACK: Thank you, Ms. Miller.
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Ms. Miller.
 3 MR. PACK: Anyone else on the call,
 4 Ms. Morris?
 5 MS. MORRIS: I will open up the line to
 6 the phone-in callers.
 7 MR. PACK: Okay. Why don't we do that.
 8 MS. MORRIS: And while I'm doing that, I
 9 did want to let you know that Scott Kane has
 10 joined the meeting and he is available if you
 11 have any questions for him.
 12 MR. PACK: Not at this time, Mr. Kane.
 13 MR. SHIMCO: I have some comments I'd like
 14 to make, please.
 15 MR. PACK: Who is the caller?
 16 MR. SHIMCO: Steve Shimko.
 17 MR. PACK: I'm sorry. Once again, please?
 18 MS. MORRIS: It's Steve Shimko I believe.
 19 MR. PACK: Mr. Shimko. Okay. Mr. Shimko,
 20 we'll hear from you. Go ahead. You got three
 21 minutes on the clock.

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1 MR. SHIMCO: Okay. I just want to say
 2 that I support Bill 1446 as amended by the
 3 Planning Commission. I think there's some
 4 changes that the Planning Commission
 5 recommended are the right things to do.
 6 I just to (inaudible) one thing that
 7 Ms. Reichart said. She seems to be questioning
 8 the differences in the regulations between
 9 short-term rentals and B&Bs in particular. And
 10 my reply to her is that you might be willing to
 11 entertain (inaudible) suggestions if she would
 12 be willing to accept the same 500-foot
 13 separation between STRs and B&B.
 14 This, the 500-foot separation, was one of
 15 the things that we thought was a reasonable
 16 restriction on STRs. (Inaudible) overcrowding.
 17 (Inaudible). Neighborhood like Bentley Hay and
 18 Rio Vista. And that did not make it into the
 19 Step 190 update. But if she wants to entertain
 20 additional changes along that line, I think
 21 (inaudible) might be willing to do that.

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1 And then some of the other comments had to
 2 do with what people not seeming to be aware of
 3 the changes and the process that we went
 4 through. Bill 1446, as Mr. Salinas mentioned,
 5 is a result of a process that's been going on
 6 for approximately a year now. There were
 7 approximately 85 to 100 comments were received
 8 by the Office of Planning and Zoning that made
 9 it into the matrix. Some of those suggestions
 10 made it into Bill 1446, some did not. But for
 11 somebody to say that they did not have an
 12 opportunity or did not know what was going on
 13 with this process is rather hard to fathom.
 14 Thank you very much.
 15 MR. PACK: Thank you, Mr. Shimko.
 16 Is there another caller, Ms. Morris?
 17 MS. MORRIS: Is there another caller on
 18 the line that wishes to comment on Bill 1446?
 19 MS. CARNEY: Yes, I would.
 20 MS. MORRIS: Please identify yourself by
 21 name.

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1 MS. CARNEY: Laura Carney.
 2 MS. MORRIS: Laura Carney.
 3 MR. PACK: Ms. Carney, go ahead. You got
 4 three minutes.
 5 MS. CARNEY: Hi. I'm (inaudible) and
 6 (inaudible) Annette Miller (inaudible) --
 7 MS. PRICE: I can't understand what she's
 8 saying. I don't think the stenographer can,
 9 either. She's going to have to speak slowly
 10 and loudly.
 11 MS. CARNEY: I think there's an echo in
 12 that room. Can you hear me now?
 13 It's not us. Can you hear me?
 14 MR. PACK: Yes.
 15 MS. MORRIS: Yes. If you can just speak
 16 slowly, we should be able to capture your
 17 comments.
 18 MS. CARNEY: Okay. Do you need my name
 19 again?
 20 MS. MORRIS: No. We're good. Laura
 21 Carney, correct?

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1 MS. CARNEY: Yes.
 2 MS. MORRIS: Thank you.
 3 MS. CARNEY: So my husband, Greg, and I
 4 are STR owners in Travelers Rest. And I would
 5 like to just reiterate what Annette Miller and
 6 Keith Watts said in regards to the changes that
 7 have been made or -- by the Planning
 8 Commission.
 9 And specifically in regards to the
 10 requirement for the notification 1,000 feet,
 11 and that was -- there was a straw vote taken.
 12 And it just seems as though some of these
 13 things are (inaudible) and now we're talking
 14 again about it being back to the 500 feet.
 15 And I feel at times that we are going in
 16 circles. The same thing we get and discuss.
 17 The Council will give us those. And we think
 18 we've moved on, and then we come back again.
 19 And it's just a little frustrating.
 20 The comments about the safety changes,
 21 which we're all about safety. But we just

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1 installed all of the new smoke detectors that
 2 are interconnected. We've installed the carbon
 3 monoxide detectors in each floor. And now it's
 4 coming in that these carbon monoxide needs to
 5 be interconnected. Again, it's just overkill.
 6 And it's just changing, changing, changing.
 7 I don't know. I think Corey Pack
 8 objecting to it in the beginning, I think that
 9 that is (inaudible). To have to keep going
 10 over this stuff is, I don't think it's just
 11 necessary.
 12 I (inaudible) especially going to be
 13 economic state that we're in, and also the -- I
 14 have a drier that broke. (Inaudible) somebody
 15 here today. And I guess I did too many people
 16 (inaudible). It's very difficult (inaudible)
 17 on that particular issue.
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Ms. Carney, your time is
 19 just about up.
 20 MS. CARNEY: I think I'm about done, but
 21 that's all I have to say.

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1 Thanks for your time.
 2 MR. PACK: Thank you, Ms. Carney.
 3 Anyone else, Ms. Morris?
 4 MS. MORRIS: Is there anybody else that
 5 wishes to make comment on Bill Number 1446?
 6 MS. DuPONT: I would like to, please.
 7 MS. MORRIS: Okay. Could you please
 8 identify yourself by name?
 9 MS. DuPONT: Susan DuPont.
 10 MS. MORRIS: Thank you, Ms. DuPont. Go
 11 ahead.
 12 MS. DuPONT: I would just like to echo my
 13 support for Bill 1446 combined with the
 14 amendments that is the Planning Commission
 15 offered and Mr. Leshner brought forward.
 16 Listening to this Planning Commission
 17 meeting reminded me of Mr. Fisher's letter and
 18 it reminded me of notes that were in the matrix
 19 that they worked up over the at least two years
 20 I think that they worked on how to address what
 21 they thought (inaudible) diminished quality of

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1 neighborhoods by 2018. And the philosophy
 2 behind it I think is what was moving them
 3 forward to consider a neighborhood, considering
 4 transparency, safety.
 5 And the notifications at 1,000 feet are
 6 balanced by the fact that as 1446 takes shape,
 7 which I hope it does after all this time and
 8 work, there is maybe one notification required.
 9 And to clarify that the occupancy leases that I
 10 looked at remind renters that the work people
 11 that come on the property are allowed to come
 12 on, and please don't send them away, and that
 13 to me implies that they don't count in that
 14 particular concern.
 15 Thank you all for the hard, thoughtful
 16 work that continues to go on with this
 17 complicated issue.
 18 MR. PACK: Thank you, Ms. DuPont.
 19 Next caller.
 20 MS. MORRIS: Is there anybody else on the
 21 line that wishes on comment on Bill 1446?

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1 MS. OTTE: Yes, I would.
 2 MS. MORRIS: Please identify yourself by
 3 name.
 4 MS. OTTE: Yes. My name is Monica Otte.
 5 MS. MORRIS: Thank you, Ms. Otte. Go
 6 ahead.
 7 MS. OTTE: Okay. Well, I also support
 8 1446 and I support the amendment proposed by
 9 the Planning Commission.
 10 And first of all, I would like to thank
 11 the Planning and Zoning staff, the Short-Term
 12 Rental Review Board, the Planning Commission,
 13 and the Council because this bill is a
 14 culmination of a lot of work by all those
 15 organizations. And as Mr. Salinas explained,
 16 reflects five days of work sessions and
 17 comments from I think about over 90 people
 18 wrote in and 40 people testified. So there's
 19 been a lot of thought and a lot of
 20 consideration of public input.
 21 Most of the provisions in this bill are

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1 really designed to streamline the STR
 2 application and enforcement process.
 3 One of the callers mentioned the problem
 4 of sending out two notices. Well, if this bill
 5 is enacted, there's only going to be the need
 6 for one notice.
 7 And some of the other provisions were
 8 designed to try and streamline some of the
 9 safety procedures.
 10 The Planning Commission did identify a few
 11 areas. The notice requirement, the 500-foot
 12 notice requirement in the bill applies only in
 13 the dense zones. And I think those are the
 14 zones where more people are likely to be
 15 affected by short-term rentals. So I don't
 16 think it makes sense to cut that notice
 17 provision from 500-feet -- or from 1,000 feet
 18 to 500 feet.
 19 And I do think it's already been
 20 demonstrated in the hearings of the STR Board
 21 that having the owner participate in the

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1 hearing can really be helpful. It can help
 2 head off problems before they happen.
 3 There was one application last year where
 4 a neighbor was concerned about hunting at the
 5 STR property. So the owner said oh, yeah,
 6 okay, I'm just going to tell my renters they
 7 can't hunt. So there's a problem solved right
 8 away. And I don't know if that would have
 9 happened if the owner had actually not been
 10 there.
 11 And certainly in circumstances like we
 12 have now with coronavirus, if an owner can't
 13 physically be present because of a (inaudible)
 14 circumstances, the board can make arrangements
 15 for him to call in.
 16 I'd like to say I do support the bill and
 17 with the changes recommended by the Planning
 18 Commission. And I thank you very much for the
 19 opportunity to comment.
 20 MR. PACK: Thank you, Ms. Otte.
 21 Any other callers?

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1 MS. MORRIS: Anybody else that would like
 2 to speak on Bill Number 1446?
 3 MR. MILLER: Yes, I would.
 4 MS. MORRIS: Please identify yourself.
 5 MR. MILLER: My name is Dale Miller.
 6 MS. MORRIS: Go ahead. Thank you,
 7 Mr. Miller.
 8 MR. MILLER: I'm an STR owner. And I
 9 think in trying to listen to both sides, as I
 10 always do, I think most of the frustration
 11 coming from STR owners is while there was many
 12 work sessions and time for public input, I
 13 think us as STR owners don't feel as though we
 14 got consideration in the process. I know it's
 15 not always fair, but that's where it's coming
 16 from.
 17 And when the bill continues to evolve,
 18 more stuff gets added in, that becomes a
 19 burden. It complicates the process.
 20 We have an existing building code last
 21 time I checked, and that gets updated

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1 regularly. But now you're adding more to that,
 2 which complicates it. Then you get into gray
 3 areas where the verbiage isn't quite right for
 4 understanding exactly what it means. If the
 5 building code is fine for the State, why does
 6 STRs have to have additional? That's my
 7 question.
 8 I also do not like provisions in the bill
 9 with regarding to a three-night minimum stay,
 10 when you have most people coming that work and
 11 they want to stay for two nights. It limits
 12 use of that with a three-night minimum.
 13 The other confusing thing is with regards
 14 to occupancy. And I understand the overnight
 15 minimum. But if you have other personnel
 16 showing up through day, I don't agree with the
 17 way it's currently written. Currently written
 18 does not specify if it's service personnel or
 19 other personnel. We would be in violation the
 20 way it's currently written.
 21 So that's pretty much what I have to say,

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1 and I'll yield my time.
 2 MR. PACK: Thank you, Mr. Miller.
 3 MS. MORRIS: Is there anybody else on the
 4 line that wishes to speak?
 5 MS. HARDESTY: This is Jodie Hardesty.
 6 MS. MORRIS: Go ahead. Ms. Hardesty.
 7 MS. HARDESTY: Yes. Thank you. One of
 8 the things I want to reiterate that hasn't
 9 really been brought up this evening is the
 10 process by which homeowners and resident agents
 11 are applying for these licenses. It's a
 12 15-page application. And then in addition to
 13 those 15 pages, copies of a deed is required, a
 14 plat is required, floor plans are required, the
 15 inspection is required, multiple letters are
 16 sent out, and then multiple copies of all of
 17 these things are provided to Planning and
 18 Zoning. It ends up becoming a burdensome
 19 business paperwork nightmare.
 20 In addition to all of the paperwork that's
 21 submitted, the renewal process requires all the

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1 same documents. So what has already been
 2 turned in and being held in a file is required
 3 all over again.
 4 So right now Bill 1446 does not address
 5 the redundancies that are within the
 6 application process itself. So I would like to
 7 see that eliminated because it's unnecessary at
 8 this point, in addition to reexamining the
 9 three-night minimum and the two-person per
 10 bedroom occupancy limit, particularly during
 11 the day.
 12 If somebody is visiting the area and has
 13 family in the area, they are in violation if
 14 one person sets foot on the property just to
 15 say hello for the day or swim in the pool. So
 16 there's little details within this bill that
 17 currently don't make a lot of sense and are
 18 right for unnecessary violations I think for
 19 homeowners and renters alike.
 20 So I would like for those things to be
 21 considered before drafting -- voting on this

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1 bill or possibly drafting a new bill to address
 2 these redundancies and the burdensome process
 3 of the application.
 4 Thank you.
 5 MR. PACK: Thank you very much.
 6 MS. MORRIS: Is there anybody else that
 7 wishes to speak on Bill 1446? Going once,
 8 anybody else that wishes to speak on Bill 1446?
 9 I think that's it, Mr. Pack.
 10 MR. PACK: That's it, okay. Is there
 11 another caller there? Okay.
 12 MS. PRICE: Can I ask a question, a
 13 clarification of staff?
 14 MR. PACK: Sure.
 15 MS. PRICE: And for a maintenance worker,
 16 someone cutting the grass, cleaning the pool,
 17 that does not count against them; does it?
 18 MR. SALINAS: Yeah. Maintenance workers
 19 on the property, Ms. Price, the mail person,
 20 landscapers, gardeners, those aren't included
 21 in this. If there was somebody doing some work

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1 on the property and we received a call, we
 2 wouldn't -- and there was a complaint that
 3 there was too many people on the property, I
 4 don't think that would be part of our
 5 enforcement. They're temporary and they're not
 6 associated necessarily with the STR rental.
 7 They're associated with the other things that
 8 are happening on the property.
 9 MS. PRICE: Yeah. I wouldn't think it
 10 would be necessary to add an amendment
 11 clarifying that. But sometimes, like we just
 12 talked about, you have to spell it out. So
 13 maybe we need to add verbiage that anybody
 14 that's doing maintenance work or work on the
 15 house, construction, Mr. Callahan shows up,
 16 you're not going to throw him out or be in
 17 violation.
 18 It seems silly that we would have to do
 19 that, but there's maybe some language that we
 20 can throw in there just to clarify because we
 21 had three or four callers who said that they

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1 would be in violation with the mailman coming.
 2 And obviously, that is not the case.
 3 MR. PACK: Anything further? Okay. Thank
 4 you very much, Mr. Salinas.
 5 I do want to remind everyone we're not
 6 taking any vote on 1446 tonight. What we'll
 7 do, though, is we'll leave the public hearing
 8 open on 1446 through this coming Friday, which
 9 will be the, what is that, the 17th, Ms. Moran?
 10 SECRETARY: Yes.
 11 MR. PACK: So the public hearing will
 12 remain open on 1446 through this coming Friday,
 13 which is July the 17th. So if you wanted to go
 14 ahead and write us and share with us your
 15 comments, you certainly can. We'll entertain
 16 those.
 17 You know, this Council and the prior
 18 Council did a lot of work on this STR
 19 legislation two years ago. There was basically
 20 no STR regulations in place. It was through
 21 the Council taking time to sit down with people

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1 in the community and with staff and also with
 2 the different organizations that represent STR
 3 owners that we were able to come up with what
 4 you have today.
 5 This legislation is still in its infancy.
 6 Somebody made comment the devil is in the
 7 details. But quite honestly, we don't know
 8 those details as yet because we're still in the
 9 infancy of this program.
 10 So nothing will be decided tonight. I'm
 11 sure we'll have much discussion going forward,
 12 this Council will, before we take final vote on
 13 1446 and the accompanying amendments from the
 14 Planning Commission.
 15 Again, I did give voice to that. I
 16 believe that those comments were not
 17 appropriate coming back to us. This Council
 18 had already made a decision on those, but we'll
 19 address that at a particular time.
 20 So this public hearing is not closed.
 21 We're going to suspend until this coming

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1 Friday, the 17th, close of business for anyone
 2 that has any comments. Please send those into
 3 us and we'll entertain those at a later date.
 4 Thank you.
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Question, Mr. President.
 6 So are we going to put the new stuff, the new
 7 regulations that have been ingested in this
 8 bill so the public can see it?
 9 MS. PRICE: The amendments?
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah, the amendments.
 11 MS. PRICE: That will be posted now; won't
 12 it?
 13 MR. PACK: The amendments that were
 14 introduced tonight?
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes.
 16 MR. PACK: Are those on the website?
 17 SECRETARY: I can post that.
 18 MR. PACK: We'll post it on the website.
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: So in some of these
 20 comments with people, like they were saying,
 21 they had some concerns about us putting stuff

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1 in there without looking at it and it was the
 2 first time we've seen it.
 3 Is there an opportunity in the next
 4 several weeks that we could actually put more
 5 into it, meaning some of this stuff that the
 6 public wants, like the two-day, can we put that
 7 in?
 8 MR. PACK: When you say put it in, are you
 9 referring to as to amend?
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: Uh-huh.
 11 MR. PACK: You can offer an amendment at
 12 any time, Mr. Callahan. You can offer an
 13 amendment right prior to. You can offer an
 14 amendment, as we did tonight, during the public
 15 hearing process. Or prior to the vote being
 16 taken, you can offer an amendment. You can
 17 offer it at any time.
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Do you see what was done
 19 tonight as an amendment, because it is an
 20 amendment to (inaudible)?
 21 MR. PACK: Those are amendments to the

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1 bill, yes. It was introduced as amendments to
 2 the bill, yes.
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So we can offer our
 4 own amendments?
 5 MR. PACK: You most certainly can. Yeah,
 6 absolutely.
 7 MS. PRICE: The only thing I would leave
 8 people with is that this, while it might not
 9 seem like it, if we don't pass this, you're
 10 still under the stricter regulations, the two
 11 mailings, for example.
 12 So while, again, not everybody might be
 13 happy with this particular legislation and
 14 they're urging us not to pass it, understand if
 15 we don't pass this, then you're under the
 16 stricter regulations and we're still back to
 17 only taking applications two times a year.
 18 So maybe this is going to be a multi-step
 19 process, that we pass this. That doesn't mean
 20 that we can't come back and revisit some of the
 21 concerns that we're hearing about.

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1 So it may be -- since we started this a
 2 couple of years ago, and it was, as Mr. Pack
 3 said, it was new, we didn't have any short-term
 4 rental regulations. We got a lot of it right.
 5 We've got a lot of it that we need to make some
 6 changes to, which is what we're doing, the
 7 process we're going through now. And we may
 8 need to continue to smooth out some of the
 9 bumps in the road.
 10 So it's not going to be perfect. But if
 11 we don't pass this one, then you're still under
 12 the old one, which is I guess for the people
 13 who are advocating for relaxation on short-term
 14 rentals, you're under the stricter rules. So
 15 just keep that in mind that we might need to do
 16 this and then consider another round of a
 17 couple more amendments.
 18 MR. PACK: Okay. So this public hearing
 19 is not closed. You can give comment up to this
 20 Friday, the 17th. Thank you very much.
 21 Mr. Hollis, I believe that's all that I

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1 have. I'm going to turn the rest of the
 2 meeting over to you for county manager report.
 3 MR. HOLLIS: Thank you, Mr. President.
 4 Mr. Edwards is coming up, and he's
 5 requesting your approval to purchase a stone
 6 chipsreader from Chesapeake Supply and
 7 Equipment out of Felton, Delaware, in the
 8 amount of \$350,000.
 9 This funding is included in your capital
 10 outlay budget for this fiscal year. I believe
 11 there is a several-month lead time, which is
 12 one of Mr. Edwards's concerns.
 13 So Warren, if you want to speak to the
 14 Council.
 15 MR. EDWARDS: So the chipper we have now
 16 is a 2008, and it's been giving us problems for
 17 about four years really bad, technical issues.
 18 And we've repaired it to beyond repair.
 19 The newer machine will also allow us to
 20 shut down a road and do it all one width so we
 21 don't have that overlapping of the crown of the

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1 road, which we've been trying to -- that's why
 2 we mill so much.
 3 And there's only one vendor that can do
 4 this, and that's (inaudible), which we're
 5 requesting.
 6 MR. PACK: Okay.
 7 MR. HOLLIS: So Council budgeted
 8 \$1.639 million for this current fiscal year in
 9 capital outlay.
 10 MR. LESHER: So that total, 1.6 million,
 11 is unallocated. We didn't make the decisions
 12 within -- I remember reviewing this item back
 13 at budget hearing time.
 14 MR. HOLLIS: So the 1.6 is built on
 15 approved items that were not allowed to be
 16 moving forward until Council gave approval. So
 17 yes.
 18 MS. PRICE: So we have about 2 million in
 19 contingency, right? Because there are two
 20 different things. We've got about 2 million in
 21 contingency -- I see Ms. Lane back there -- for

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1 operating-type expenses. And then we have the
 2 1.6 in capital outlay.
 3 And we did the budget, and we're only 14
 4 days into the fiscal year now. And we really
 5 don't have any answers yet.
 6 So in my opinion, this is a little too
 7 early to be putting things into the fiscal year
 8 budget.
 9 We are -- the State is making obviously
 10 some cuts. I will share, and it's not
 11 necessarily specific to you, but one thing
 12 that's on the table is withholding our income
 13 tax revenues. Like the State not making those
 14 distributions.
 15 So while I will see the need for a lot of
 16 these things that need to happen, until I get
 17 some clarification -- I mean not only are our
 18 revenues going to go down in income tax. I
 19 literally was on a call last week that the
 20 budget secretary, Brinkley, was on. He said
 21 everything is on the table.

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1 That really made me extremely nervous.
 2 And it's new information. I never dreamed that
 3 would happen. I have shared that with the
 4 finance director. We don't know what that
 5 number will be.
 6 So I'm probably not going to approve this
 7 early on in the fiscal year some of these
 8 expenses. And by no means a reflexion on the
 9 department, department head, or the need. I
 10 just don't know if we're going to have the
 11 funds.
 12 We specifically put two plus \$1.6 million
 13 away to decide as we went through the fiscal
 14 year. And as I said, it's only July 14th. So
 15 it's a little early for me.
 16 MR. EDWARDS: So can I respond to that?
 17 MS. PRICE: Of course.
 18 MR. EDWARDS: So keep in mind you cannot
 19 rent this piece of equipment anywhere. They do
 20 not rent them out.
 21 And 85 to 90 percent of our roads are all

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1 tar and chip. So when things do get tight, if
 2 we don't have an asphalt budget and we can only
 3 tar and chip and this thing tears up, we could
 4 be a year waiting on it when you say go ahead.
 5 It's now five months to a year getting it as it
 6 is.
 7 MS. PRICE: Do we have one now and this is
 8 a replacement?
 9 MR. EDWARDS: We do.
 10 MR. PACK: So what's the resale price?
 11 When you say here in your memo that you think
 12 you could sell the current machine outright,
 13 what's the net on that do you think?
 14 MR. EDWARDS: It just depends. I would
 15 say somewhere between 30 and 60. And the
 16 reason I say that is because this machine now,
 17 it goes up to 16 feet. So if everything broke
 18 down on it, they could still use it at 11. So
 19 there are contractors that would be interested
 20 in a machine that everything works on it but it
 21 wouldn't open up. So there's a resale market

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1 out there.
 2 MR. PACK: Thank you.
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: Is there any market,
 4 Warren, for used, that you can pick one up --
 5 MR. EDWARDS: No.
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: No?
 7 MR. EDWARDS: Not 22-foot.
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: No.
 9 MS. PRICE: So you've identified a
 10 specific one that's available right now, or if
 11 I said you know what, I really want another --
 12 I want to get to the end of August and see what
 13 BBM does.
 14 MR. EDWARDS: They would have to build a
 15 machine. There's none available.
 16 MS. PRICE: So you make the request now.
 17 But I mean it's possible to come back --
 18 MR. EDWARDS: -- for the last two years.
 19 MS. PRICE: No. I understand.
 20 But I mean when I heard what I heard last
 21 week, and that could be incredibly detrimental

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|---|---|
| <p>1 to us, is it something that you can hang onto</p> <p>2 for another four to eight weeks and -- because</p> <p>3 I think we are going to get some clarification.</p> <p>4 They've made some of their budget cuts from the</p> <p>5 BBW is allowed to do 20 percent. And they</p> <p>6 haven't finished doing that yet.</p> <p>7 So I'd just like to get a little bit more</p> <p>8 handle --</p> <p>9 MR. EDWARDS: We're going to do whatever</p> <p>10 Council decides they have to do. We're still</p> <p>11 making it work now, but. . .</p> <p>12 MR. PACK: Well, the chair would entertain</p> <p>13 a motion. This is for a stone chipspreader.</p> <p>14 The price on it is \$350,000. This is to</p> <p>15 replace a smaller spreader. This is a 22-foot</p> <p>16 as opposed to a 16-foot spreader.</p> <p>17 MR. EDWARDS: This one (inaudible)</p> <p>18 hydraulic. So it doesn't have all the problems</p> <p>19 that the other one has.</p> <p>20 MR. PACK: Mr. Edwards thinks he can</p> <p>21 resell the current spreader net between 30,000</p> | <p>1 part of that 1.6. I mean it's not a small</p> <p>2 item. It's going to eat up 20 percent of it.</p> <p>3 MR. EDWARDS: We have enough money sitting</p> <p>4 at the spoil site to buy four of them, but</p> <p>5 we're not selling anything. Material that</p> <p>6 we've recycled, but we're not selling anything.</p> <p>7 MR. PACK: Do you have a motion?</p> <p>8 MR. EDWARDS: -- every day trying to make</p> <p>9 it happen.</p> <p>10 MR. CALLAHAN: Just one more thing. So</p> <p>11 with all your wants and needs that you've come</p> <p>12 to us for, you know, through the budget</p> <p>13 hearing, is this the most important thing?</p> <p>14 MR. EDWARDS: Yes.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: It is?</p> <p>16 MR. EDWARDS: For the roads, yes.</p> <p>17 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>18 MR. EDWARDS: If we run out of money for</p> <p>19 asphalt, we can't pave. But we have so much</p> <p>20 tar and chip we have to maintain --</p> <p>21 MR. CALLAHAN: I understand that. I think</p> |
| <p>Page 175</p> <p>1 and 60,000 --</p> <p>2 MR. LESHER: Mr. Pack, our ability to have</p> <p>3 the in-house ability to maintain our tar and</p> <p>4 chip roads I think is critical to maintain.</p> <p>5 We've heard testimony, not just today, but</p> <p>6 in the budgetary process, about the necessity</p> <p>7 of this piece of equipment.</p> <p>8 MR. PACK: I agree.</p> <p>9 MR. LESHER: This would really outline as</p> <p>10 a priority. We don't know how much time we've</p> <p>11 got on the existing piece of equipment, as</p> <p>12 Mr. Edwards has testified.</p> <p>13 I think he's made the case for the urgency</p> <p>14 of this piece of equipment.</p> <p>15 We do have this funding set aside in the</p> <p>16 capital outlay budget for this year.</p> <p>17 I think we've heard a compelling case for</p> <p>18 moving forward with it. And we know, as we've</p> <p>19 heard tonight, there's a long lead time on</p> <p>20 this. This is. . .</p> <p>21 MS. PRICE: It is 20 percent of the entire</p> | <p>Page 177</p> <p>1 you have told us what you need. I think you've</p> <p>2 been waiting.</p> <p>3 We are in a budget crunch, you know. But</p> <p>4 just like Mr. Leshar said, I think we need it.</p> <p>5 The problem I have with it, if something</p> <p>6 breaks down now, we're in a punch right now, if</p> <p>7 something breaks in the next six months.</p> <p>8 So I don't think we have a whole lot of</p> <p>9 choice.</p> <p>10 MS. LANE: Council, just so you know, this</p> <p>11 was Mr. Edwards's number one priority in the</p> <p>12 budget request, and it is the only capital item</p> <p>13 that was approved to stay in the capital item</p> <p>14 listing out of the 11 items that he requested.</p> <p>15 MR. LESHER: With that information, I'll</p> <p>16 move for approval.</p> <p>17 MR. CALLAHAN: I second it.</p> <p>18 MR. PACK: Madam Secretary, please call</p> <p>19 your roll.</p> <p>20 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.</p> <p>21 MR. PACK: Aye.</p> |

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1 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 3 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 4 MS. PRICE: Aye, this time.
 5 SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.
 6 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 7 MR. PACK: Thank you.
 8 Next item, Mr. Hollis.
 9 MR. HOLLIS: Council, the next item is
 10 just for your information actually. It's about
 11 the work that you're going to be doing at the
 12 repurposing entrance.
 13 MR. EDWARDS: Yes.
 14 MR. HOLLIS: Highly visible.
 15 Just brief the Council, please.
 16 MR. EDWARDS: I will. So the road, the
 17 shoulder has been breaking up for probably ten
 18 or 12 years, and it's breaking up really bad.
 19 We have such a good relationship with
 20 State Highway and because the entrance is
 21 existing for over 30 years, they're not

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1 requiring us to get a permit to upgrade it as
 2 long as we do it in-house and not use a
 3 contractor.
 4 So we have the money in our budget to do
 5 it. I'll just use money out of the asphalt
 6 budget.
 7 But we have to mill out the entrance with
 8 our smaller machine and then excavate out nine
 9 inches and pave it three inches, three inches,
 10 and three inches so it will be up to State
 11 Highway specs.
 12 It could easily be 200,000 for curb and
 13 gutter and accel, decel lane and all that.
 14 They're not requiring any of that stuff. And
 15 that has nothing to do with whether the
 16 Repurposing Center passes or doesn't pass.
 17 It's because we use it for our own use. And
 18 it's been going bad a long time.
 19 MR. PACK: So we're going to go ahead and
 20 do it with \$14,000 for this repaving of the
 21 shoulder?

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1 MR. EDWARDS: Yes. Well, it will be the
 2 entrance. It's the shoulder and the entrance,
 3 like 12 feet in or something.
 4 MR. PACK: Twelve feet in.
 5 MS. PRICE: So you're not going to go all
 6 the way back --
 7 MR. EDWARDS: No, no, no, not at all.
 8 And it's just I wanted you all to know
 9 what was going on because somebody will call
 10 and complain and say why is the Roads
 11 Department doing this.
 12 MR. PACK: Is 12 feet the standard that
 13 SHA goes into a --
 14 MR. EDWARDS: From the edge of the
 15 shoulder. So it will be 18.
 16 MR. PACK: Eighteen.
 17 MR. EDWARDS: So you have the shoulder and
 18 then you would go in 12.
 19 It depends really on the district. They
 20 can ask you to go further, or they can say
 21 you're okay going back six feet off the

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1 shoulder with asphalt.
 2 MR. PACK: Yeah. When we were doing --
 3 when we did 50, they would go into like
 4 Dutchman's maybe 12, 15 feet --
 5 MR. EDWARDS: Well, it's a whole different
 6 standard for Route 50 --
 7 MR. PACK: I was asking if there was a
 8 set --
 9 MR. EDWARDS: Yeah. There's a different
 10 standard for a higher volume, heavier truck
 11 route.
 12 MR. PACK: Got you.
 13 MR. EDWARDS: That probably should be a
 14 higher volume route, but I'm not going to argue
 15 that.
 16 We're going to do the work. It will last.
 17 MR. PACK: So you're doing 16 feet in?
 18 MR. EDWARDS: Probably. Probably 20.
 19 Whatever it takes to make it the right grade.
 20 MR. PACK: Okay.
 21 MR. HOLLIS: Doesn't --

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1 MR. PACK: Just information. You got the
 2 money. You're going to --
 3 MR. EDWARDS: Yeah. I just wanted you all
 4 to know what was going on and why we were doing
 5 it.
 6 MR. PACK: Appreciate that.
 7 Next, what do you have next, Mr. Hollis?
 8 MR. HOLLIS: Thank you, Council. Your
 9 next six items are all airport related and your
 10 airport manager is here.
 11 Requesting your approval to apply for and
 12 accept a grant from the Maryland Aviation
 13 Administration. This covers 75 percent
 14 funding, which is \$291,851, for phase one of
 15 the airport's obstruction removal project.
 16 MR. PACK: Mr. Risher, how are you?
 17 MR. RISHER: Good evening, President Pack,
 18 Council. Thank you for your time. So a lot to
 19 talk about. Obviously we have six items. This
 20 is a testament that although COVID has hit and
 21 things have slowed down in one regard, the

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1 airport has not stopped planning. We've been
 2 quite busy getting ready for this new fiscal
 3 year.
 4 I will tell you before I go through any of
 5 this that these are the airport's priorities
 6 for the year. These are all funded, budgeted
 7 for. These were the top things. We cut other
 8 things out that we are not even going to bring
 9 to you this year. So these are the airport's
 10 priorities for '21.
 11 A lot of these things are time sensitive,
 12 as you know, getting the grant in. The MAA
 13 grants have to be fully spent and closed out by
 14 June 30th of next year. So that's why we start
 15 with this process very early.
 16 The first three bullets that you have
 17 there, they're really a package deal. They all
 18 three go together. They pertain to the
 19 obstruction removal project that we briefed on
 20 about six weeks or so ago out to the Community
 21 Center. It's the tree removal primarily off of

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1 the former Black & Decker site off of
 2 Hazelwood, Brooks, Commerce, a few there, and
 3 the Route 50 rest area up by the airport. So
 4 that is the removal project.
 5 The MAA came through with 75 percent
 6 funding. We were pleasantly surprised by that.
 7 They were talking maybe only 50. So that's
 8 very good. They're offering 75 percent,
 9 291,000.
 10 RJO Services is the -- they won the award.
 11 I'm sorry. They won the lowest bid. So we'd
 12 also like to accept that today.
 13 MR. HOLLIS: So Micah, let me do this a
 14 different way.
 15 MR. RISHER: Okay.
 16 MR. HOLLIS: Let me help you out.
 17 So Council, we're going to go through
 18 these three items. And for the record, make
 19 sure -- we already talked about the first one
 20 with the 75 percent funding from MAA for the
 21 project.

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1 Number two is to award Bid Number 20-06 to
 2 the low bidder, RJO Services, LLC, for the
 3 total bid amount of \$388,785.75.
 4 And the third item Micah is requesting
 5 approval for is to accept AECOM's price
 6 proposal for professional engineering and
 7 construction phase service of \$55,676. The
 8 airport cost will not exceed \$152,959.
 9 MR. RISHER: That's correct. This is a
 10 package deal. We need all three of those
 11 pieces to go together to make the project work.
 12 MR. PACK: Sound good. Is there a motion?
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: So moved.
 14 MR. PACK: By Mr. Callahan. Is there a
 15 second?
 16 MS. PRICE: Second.
 17 MR. PACK: Seconded by Ms. Price. Any
 18 further comment?
 19 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, please call
 20 your roll.
 21 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.

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| <p>1 MR. PACK: Aye.</p> <p>2 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>4 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.</p> <p>5 MS. PRICE: Aye.</p> <p>6 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.</p> <p>7 MR. LESHER: Aye.</p> <p>8 MR. HOLLIS: So am I combining any more,</p> <p>9 before I start talking?</p> <p>10 MR. RISHER: No. Now we'll go</p> <p>11 (inaudible). They're all together.</p> <p>12 MR. HOLLIS: You good?</p> <p>13 MR. RISHER: I am, yes.</p> <p>14 So the next bullet is for a pavement</p> <p>15 management project for Taxiway Bravo. This was</p> <p>16 a high priority for us. Taxiway Bravo serves</p> <p>17 our secondary runway. Not to get too deep in</p> <p>18 the weeds, but it has not been properly</p> <p>19 maintained in about ten years.</p> <p>20 We need to start the process of getting</p> <p>21 our secondary taxiway and the secondary runway</p> | <p>1 we're going to design it now and watch the</p> <p>2 revenues, right. So although this is a</p> <p>3 priority, we're still being very conservative</p> <p>4 and cautious and waiting. So we'll design it,</p> <p>5 we'll have it on the shelf, and then we'll pull</p> <p>6 the trigger and do it in the spring. That's</p> <p>7 the thought.</p> <p>8 MS. PRICE: You need a motion to approve?</p> <p>9 MR. CALLAHAN: So when you're talking</p> <p>10 design, you're putting -- are you making like a</p> <p>11 new path?</p> <p>12 MR. RISHER: No, no. It's not -- it's</p> <p>13 just going to design the project for us. To go</p> <p>14 out there and do the material estimation,</p> <p>15 actually find the cracks, draw it up. They</p> <p>16 help with the bid process and all that. It's</p> <p>17 just to design the project and get it ready for</p> <p>18 trucks --</p> <p>19 MR. CALLAHAN: But you're basically</p> <p>20 overlaying what's already there?</p> <p>21 MR. RISHER: That's right. Exactly. It's</p> |
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| <p>1 in better shape in preparation for when we have</p> <p>2 to close the primary runway for the overall</p> <p>3 runway project. So this was also a priority.</p> <p>4 The pavement management, tonight I'm</p> <p>5 coming to you just to ask for the design piece</p> <p>6 of it, which is 14,000 and some change. I</p> <p>7 already have an offer from MAA to fund up to</p> <p>8 \$60,000. So our portion of the actual</p> <p>9 construction cost will be 20,000. And that</p> <p>10 will leave plenty of room in my budget to also</p> <p>11 award some construction administrative costs in</p> <p>12 the spring as well.</p> <p>13 So this entire package will be done for</p> <p>14 less than \$50,000 total cost to the airport.</p> <p>15 MR. HOLLIS: So the ask right now</p> <p>16 specifically is to accept AECOM's price</p> <p>17 proposal for the design of pavement management</p> <p>18 project in the amount of 14,000 --</p> <p>19 MR. RISHER: That is the ask tonight, just</p> <p>20 to design the project.</p> <p>21 Another piece of this I'll point out is</p> | <p>1 going to be a seal coat that we put on top.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: Got you, okay.</p> <p>3 MR. PACK: Is there a motion?</p> <p>4 MS. PRICE: Yes.</p> <p>5 MR. CALLAHAN: Second it.</p> <p>6 MS. PRICE: Motion by Ms. Price. Seconded</p> <p>7 by Mr. Callahan. Any further discussion?</p> <p>8 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, please call</p> <p>9 your roll.</p> <p>10 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.</p> <p>11 MR. PACK: Aye.</p> <p>12 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>13 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>14 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.</p> <p>15 MS. PRICE: Aye.</p> <p>16 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.</p> <p>17 MR. LESHER: Aye.</p> <p>18 MR. HOLLIS: Next is a request to approve</p> <p>19 the contract with Delmarva Petroleum Services</p> <p>20 to replace the diesel and MOGAS fuel pumps in</p> <p>21 the amount of \$14,971.26.</p> |

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1 MR. RISHER: Just quickly on this. The
 2 State came out weights and measures last year.
 3 Those two pumps failed. They still had the old
 4 hand-crank pumps on it. And those are not
 5 legal for selling. And we actually do sell a
 6 small amount to the fixed base operators to
 7 power their fuel trucks. The fuel trucks run
 8 off diesel primarily.
 9 So technically it's not legal for us to
 10 sell them even a small amount of diesel because
 11 those pumps are not metered properly. So the
 12 pumps are out of compliance.
 13 So we're going to replace them with an
 14 electric pump that will pump both the gasoline
 15 and the diesel out of their fuel farm.
 16 MR. PACK: Is there a motion?
 17 MS. PRICE: So moved.
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Second it.
 19 MR. PACK: By Ms. Price. Seconded by
 20 Mr. Callahan.
 21 If there's no further discussion, Madam

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1 Secretary, please call your roll.
 2 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 3 MR. PACK: Aye.
 4 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 6 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 7 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 8 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 9 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 10 MR. HOLLIS: Final item is requesting your
 11 approval to extend the current contract with
 12 the airport consultant, AECOM, for a period of
 13 six months.
 14 You want to explain why, Micah?
 15 MR. RISHER: Yeah. So this is another
 16 COVID impact. Quite frankly, time ran out of
 17 the hourglass before we could get an RFP out
 18 for consulting services.
 19 AECOM, they actually thought they had more
 20 time. But when the State said they had money
 21 to do the pavement project, we're like we got

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1 to get this done so that we can work on this
 2 pavement project, the pavement management that
 3 we just talked about.
 4 So the contract actually expired just a
 5 few days ago, July the 10th.
 6 What I'm asking and what I think would be
 7 prudent is that we extend our current contract
 8 with them through the end of this year. That
 9 way we can get this work done that we have
 10 planned. And that will also give us plenty of
 11 time to put an RFP out to receive bids on
 12 another consultant contract for five years.
 13 MR. PACK: Has the Office of Law looked at
 14 this?
 15 This says no additional verbiage in this
 16 contract?
 17 MR. RISHER: Yeah. This is just a
 18 continuation of the terms that we're in right
 19 now with no changes to anything else.
 20 MR. PACK: Tony, have you had a chance to
 21 peek at this? Is there anything I need -- I

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1 mean I don't see any changes it in myself, but
 2 I just want to. . .
 3 MR. KUPERSMITH: I'm not sure --
 4 MR. RISHER: No. We didn't actually.
 5 Tony and I have not talked about this. I
 6 didn't have -- actually, quite frankly, I
 7 didn't think it would raise to that -- I didn't
 8 have any concern that --
 9 MR. PACK: So zero changes?
 10 MR. RISHER: There's zero changes. We
 11 just want to continue it for another six months
 12 under the exact same terms.
 13 MR. PACK: Okay. Mr. Hollis, you good?
 14 MR. HOLLIS: Yes.
 15 MR. PACK: Is there a motion?
 16 MS. PRICE: Motion to. . .
 17 MR. PACK: To extent the contract to AECOM
 18 for six months.
 19 MS. PRICE: Yes.
 20 MR. RISHER: Do we need a motion to do an
 21 RFP for the next contract? Can we combo that

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1 tonight?
 2 I love coming back.
 3 MR. PACK: Let me get to your contract
 4 first, which I'm kind of concerned that the
 5 Office of Law hasn't looked at yet.
 6 Is there a motion? This is just a
 7 six-month extension for AECOM for technical
 8 services at the airport.
 9 MS. PRICE: Yes. And they do a great job.
 10 I mean sitting in on those meetings. And they
 11 always come to the monthly Airport Board
 12 meetings. We haven't had one in person in a
 13 while. Tomorrow. But no. They do a great
 14 job.
 15 So absolutely make a motion for that.
 16 MR. PACK: So is there a second?
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Second it.
 18 MR. PACK: By Mr. Callahan. Any further
 19 discussion?
 20 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, call your
 21 roll.

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1 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 2 MR. PACK: Aye.
 3 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 5 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 6 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 7 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 8 MR. LESHNER: Aye.
 9 MR. HOLLIS: What were you saying?
 10 MR. RISHER: I was going to say will we
 11 need a motion, approval from them to go out to
 12 RFP for a new contract?
 13 MR. HOLLIS: I think since you're this far
 14 down that rabbit hole, just explain what --
 15 MR. RISHER: I mean since we know we have
 16 to do it within the next six months, can we get
 17 permission now to put an RFP together to
 18 solicit another five-year contract for airport
 19 consultants?
 20 MR. HOLLIS: I would certainly recommend
 21 you say yes.

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1 MR. PACK: Absolutely.
 2 MS. PRICE: Yes.
 3 MR. LESHNER: This is general consulting
 4 services?
 5 MR. RISHER: Yeah. We have to rebid it
 6 every five years to make sure that everybody
 7 stays competitive. So that's what we'll put
 8 together, an RFP. And we'll solicit --
 9 MR. PACK: You might as well do it now.
 10 You only have them for six more months. No
 11 sense waiting for the last minute.
 12 MR. RISHER: That's right. Might as well
 13 get it started on now.
 14 MS. PRICE: If you'd like, I'll make a
 15 motion for you to have permission to go out for
 16 an RFP to continue on.
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Second it.
 18 MR. PACK: Any further discussion?
 19 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, call your
 20 roll.
 21 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.

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1 MR. PACK: Aye.
 2 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 4 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 5 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 6 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 7 MR. LESHNER: Aye.
 8 MR. HOLLIS: So Council. Thank you,
 9 Micah.
 10 MR. RISHER: I have more one. No. I have
 11 a very important note. Nothing else to
 12 request.
 13 MR. PACK: Okay.
 14 MR. RISHER: So the airport, obviously
 15 we're self-sustaining and everything is great
 16 out there.
 17 I just want you to know that these were
 18 priorities. These have been well funded. So
 19 what I'm about to tell you, please don't get
 20 nervous about.
 21 The FAA did share with us last week, we

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1 have some concern that we may not receive our
 2 AIP funding for this year. So over the past --
 3 if you remember what happened in 2018, just
 4 about a carbon copy is being set up. And they
 5 cited COVID and loss of revenue to the airlines
 6 as the reason why the funding is unstable.
 7 This is no surprise. We're going to start
 8 seeing this all over the place.
 9 We had put an application in for a little
 10 over 1.6 million in reimbursements for our
 11 aviation easements, wetland mitigations, and
 12 Forest Conservation Act costs with all that.
 13 And as of right now, they've said that that has
 14 not been approved and we are still competing
 15 for funding.
 16 So because of that, that's why I'm
 17 continuing to be very conservative with
 18 everything out to the airport. And just know
 19 that these are the priorities. There's other
 20 things that we're going to put on the table and
 21 going to take off the table and put on the

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1 shelf, watch the revenues. The revenues are
 2 strong.
 3 We have a very stable business model. I
 4 don't have any concerns, but I just want you to
 5 know that the grant funding may not come
 6 through this year.
 7 MR. PACK: Micah --
 8 MR. LESHER: -- impact of that, would that
 9 be essentially moving the capital project
 10 schedule down a year, shifting everything back
 11 a year?
 12 MR. RISHER: It possibly could.
 13 Over the next month, Mr. Hollis and I
 14 talked this morning, we're going to discuss
 15 what this impact would look like. And I'm
 16 going to put together a paper for you guys to
 17 review. And then probably come back in another
 18 month or so and talk about in a little more
 19 detail what it would mean.
 20 MR. HOLLIS: We talked about a work
 21 session with the Council.

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1 MR. RISHER: A work session, yeah.
 2 We are at the point, quite frankly,
 3 there's so much happening dynamically, we have
 4 some things out at the Business Center, dates.
 5 We've got to get this thing figured out, right.
 6 I'm working with AECOM. I have a meeting
 7 this Friday to start looking at we have to take
 8 a look at this funding issue and really come up
 9 with a realistic timeline, what can happen when
 10 out at the Business Center. We can't just keep
 11 oh, this, that, and the other thing.
 12 We all need a date. We all need a year.
 13 That will help me plan, that will help you
 14 plan, the sheriff, and everybody. It makes
 15 everybody's life better.
 16 So we're going to start working on that.
 17 MR. PACK: I do appreciate you letting us
 18 know that.
 19 And I agree, Mr. Hollis, we talked about
 20 this earlier this week about getting with you
 21 for a work session.

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1 These AIP funding, is those through ticket
 2 receipts from travel and baggage receipts?
 3 MR. RISHER: Yes, sir. That is exactly
 4 what it is.
 5 And obviously the airlines were impacted.
 6 They lost their flight schedule by 90 percent
 7 nationwide. It's slowly coming back. They're
 8 up to 30, 40 percent.
 9 So all those fees that are usually
 10 collected in the Airways Trust Fund, they're
 11 just not flowing in there.
 12 And I predicted this was going to be an
 13 issue. Now, this is sooner than I expected. I
 14 thought we'd kind of make it through the door
 15 this year and be impacted next year. But it
 16 looks like they're already starting to cut.
 17 Like I said, their official stance is
 18 we're still competing for funding. But that
 19 doesn't give me a warm fuzzy.
 20 MR. PACK: Got you.
 21 MS. PRICE: Is it possible that it would

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1 be partial or do they kind of give you the
 2 whole project or nothing?
 3 MR. RISHER: You know what's crazy right
 4 now, Ms. Price, is anything is possible coming
 5 out of D.C. because when Congress gets back and
 6 they start talking about this next round of
 7 stimulus, they could fund it. Who knows.
 8 We really have to watch what Congress is
 9 going to do. But that being said, we're
 10 putting all our faith in what Congress is going
 11 to do. So that's why we have to be
 12 conservative.
 13 MS. PRICE: They don't typically put
 14 stimulus, i.e., tax money, printed money, into
 15 airports because all of those fees from flying
 16 on airplanes. I mean that's the one thing
 17 that's kind of nice about grants and things and
 18 the funding that the airport gets, the 75
 19 percent or 90 percent is not tax payer dollars.
 20 MR. RISHER: That's right.
 21 MS. PRICE: If you go fly, you pay a fee

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1 on the airlines, that's where it comes from.
 2 This would be a departure, no pun
 3 intended, for them to do stimulus.
 4 MR. RISHER: I would think the stimulus
 5 would look like the CARES grant did. That's
 6 what -- they'll just push money to the airport
 7 district offices through a CARES grant program.
 8 Like we did receive that small 157,000, I'm
 9 hoping that they do that again with a much
 10 larger number.
 11 MR. PACK: We'll look forward to the work
 12 session so we can kind of get our timeline
 13 together and help you coordinate a little bit
 14 better at the airport.
 15 MR. RISHER: Thank you. Appreciate it.
 16 MR. HOLLIS: You good?
 17 MR. RISHER: Yes, sir.
 18 MR. HOLLIS: Okay. So Council, you do
 19 have a request from Judge Kehoe, Circuit Court.
 20 Requesting your approval to upgrade the
 21 CourtSmart system in the courtrooms, one of

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1 which we're sitting in, at a cost of \$25,282.
 2 Current equipment is categorized as end of
 3 life and needs to be replaced with upgraded
 4 hardware and software, which is our
 5 responsibility, in order to be able to migrate
 6 all the courtroom hearings to a cloud-based
 7 environment.
 8 These funds are included in the capital
 9 outlay.
 10 I share Ms. Price's concern about the
 11 \$300,000-plus for the road equipment. But on
 12 this particular item, I'm asking you to approve
 13 it, please.
 14 MR. PACK: Is there a motion?
 15 MR. LESHER: So moved.
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Second it.
 17 MR. PACK: Moved by Mr. Leshner. Seconded
 18 by Mr. Callahan.
 19 If there's no further comment, Madam
 20 Secretary, please call your roll.
 21 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.

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1 MR. PACK: Aye.
 2 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 4 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 5 MS. PRICE: Aye, with the same concerns.
 6 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 7 MR. LESHER: Aye.
 8 MR. HOLLIS: Two letters of support if
 9 you're willing.
 10 Requesting your approval to send out a
 11 letter on behalf of Critchlow Adkins Children's
 12 Center to the USDA for a community facilities
 13 grant. It's in the amount of \$52,000. It
 14 would help offset the cost of furnishings,
 15 computers, and supplies for the new classroom
 16 at the Easton Elementary School.
 17 No county dollars would be involved.
 18 MR. PACK: Is there a motion?
 19 MR. LESHER: So moved.
 20 MR. PACK: By Mr. Leshner.
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Second it.

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1 MR. PACK: By Mr. Callahan. Any further
 2 discussion?
 3 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, call your
 4 roll.
 5 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 6 MR. PACK: Aye.
 7 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 9 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 10 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 11 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 12 MR. LESHNER: Aye.
 13 MR. HOLLIS: And the second support letter
 14 would be for the Asbury United Methodist
 15 Church. They are submitting an application to
 16 the Maryland Historical Trust in the amount of
 17 \$100,000 for repairs to the church.
 18 MR. LESHNER: Move to send a letter of
 19 support.
 20 MR. PACK: By Mr. Leshner.
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Second.

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1 MS. PRICE: Second.
 2 MR. PACK: Seconded by Ms. Price. You had
 3 your turn already. Any further discussion?
 4 Hearing none, Madam Secretary, call your
 5 roll.
 6 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.
 7 MR. PACK: Aye.
 8 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.
 10 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.
 11 MS. PRICE: Aye.
 12 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.
 13 MR. LESHNER: Aye.
 14 MR. HOLLIS: And Council, we did have an
 15 emergency services item on there, but we're
 16 going to move that to your next meeting.
 17 Mr. Stamp was feeling under the weather.
 18 Thank you.
 19 MR. PACK: Thank you. Okay.
 20 Ms. Moran, do you have my public comment
 21 list?

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1 MR. CALLAHAN: She just left for a second.
 2 MR. PACK: Ms. Morris, okay.
 3 I'm just waiting for Ms. Moran to come
 4 back with my list.
 5 MR. LESHNER: Ms. Morris.
 6 MR. HOLLIS: So while we're waiting, I'm
 7 going to go out on a limb that I (inaudible)
 8 cut off, and just point out that you do have
 9 two public hearings coming up on the 21st and
 10 the 28th.
 11 The public health officer is on record
 12 recommending against them in terms of the COVID
 13 pandemic and the numbers in Talbot County
 14 increasing. And the sheriff has indicated that
 15 he will not be providing deputies to a venue
 16 that is not sanctioned by the health officer.
 17 So while you may or may not be prepared
 18 tonight to give staff direction about where
 19 you're going to hold those hearings, I do want
 20 to be on the record telling you that the health
 21 officer says they should not be in person at

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1 the high school.
 2 MR. PACK: Thank you, Mr. Hollis.
 3 Do you have my list?
 4 MS. MORRIS: I do. I have nobody signed
 5 up to speak.
 6 MR. PACK: Okay. Are you here for public
 7 comment? Come on up, sir.
 8 MR. BRUMMELL: I sent an e-mail
 9 (inaudible.) as well.
 10 MR. PACK: That's okay.
 11 MR. BRUMMELL: Good evening.
 12 MR. PACK: Good evening.
 13 MR. BRUMMELL: I'd like to first thank the
 14 Lord Jesus Christ for salvation. The greatest
 15 gift in the world.
 16 I won't be before you long. I have a
 17 prepared statement that I'd like to read to
 18 you, if that's okay.
 19 Good evening, Council members. My name is
 20 Joe Brummell. I'm a husband, father, local
 21 business owner, an active member in our

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1 community, and a life-long resident of Talbot
 2 County.
 3 I come before you this evening out of
 4 person, social, and civic obligation personally
 5 as a loving, caring father speaking on behalf
 6 of my nine-year-old son, who has been subjected
 7 to unimaginable wrongs by the Talbot County
 8 Public School system.
 9 As parents, I'm sure you can relate to the
 10 responsibility of protecting and advocating for
 11 the spiritual, mental, and physical wellbeing
 12 of your child. Socially, to make the community
 13 aware of what is going on in the public
 14 schools, our unfortunate experience as it
 15 relates to the mistreatment of our child by
 16 TCPS staff members.
 17 We're coming forward, telling our son's
 18 story, with the hope it prevents another child
 19 and family from having to live through this
 20 hardship.
 21 Politically, we know the Council has an

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1 interest in having the community that lives
 2 together in unity.
 3 We fully understand that the TCPS board
 4 members are elected by the citizens of Talbot
 5 County. However, the Council is responsible
 6 for funding the majority of the schools' budget
 7 and should be able to have the Talbot County
 8 Public School Board show accountability when
 9 children have been mistreated by their staff
 10 and policies haven't been followed to hold them
 11 accountable. I'm sure this is not what you
 12 intend to fund or consider appropriate use of
 13 funds.
 14 TCPS has probably the best written
 15 policies out of the 24 public school districts
 16 in Maryland. When it comes to written
 17 policies, they seem to have covered all the
 18 bases to make a parent feel comfortable that
 19 they're making a right choice when they choose
 20 TCPS.
 21 They have excellent non-discrimination

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1 policies, protection policies to keep children
 2 safe from staff mistreatment, abuse,
 3 anti-bullying policies and protocols to follow
 4 when these incidents arise. When they talk
 5 policy, there's not much to debate. They have
 6 well written policies.
 7 Unfortunately, the policies only work if
 8 they're abided by and enforced.
 9 TCPS staff has not abided by these
 10 policies, nor enforced them.
 11 Before coming here this evening, my wife
 12 and I have done everything within our power to
 13 get justice quietly for our child. We have
 14 written multiple letters to the school
 15 principal, superintendent of TCPS, the TCPS
 16 Board. We have attended meetings with the
 17 principal and superintendent. We've attended
 18 two hearings. The NAACP has accompanied us to
 19 numerous meetings with the principal and equity
 20 staff of the school he was attending.
 21 We've done our best to try to protect the

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1 integrity of the Talbot County Public School
 2 system. We want the schools in our community
 3 to be places our citizens can trust, we're
 4 sending our children to a safe place to learn,
 5 grow, be treated equally and equitably.
 6 If you recall, my family and I were here
 7 as advocates for TCPS at a budget hearing. You
 8 will notice on the dates on these documents we
 9 were here to support TCPS even during the very
 10 time their staff was mistreating our son.
 11 Our son attended SMES, St. Michael's
 12 Elementary School, a predominantly white
 13 school. Children of color comprise
 14 approximately 25 percent of the student
 15 population, while white students make up the
 16 other 75 percent. Yet children of color
 17 account for 80 percent of the disciplinary
 18 referrals in the school.
 19 Our son was victimized by the staff at
 20 this school and their biased treatment of
 21 children of color. They failed to protect him.

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1 Even though they had the policies in place to
 2 guide them, they elected not to use them.
 3 You see from the documents how he was
 4 allowed to be bullied. Even with our filing
 5 the bullying reports, the administration failed
 6 to act appropriately according to policy. As a
 7 result, our son ended up in the hospital with a
 8 concussion.
 9 The documents show a distinct difference
 10 in how they handle bullying when a white child
 11 is involved.
 12 Our child was repeatedly mistreated by
 13 white staff members simply for being a child of
 14 color. He was told by the school's equity
 15 practitioner he was going to end up in prison
 16 for defending himself against a white student
 17 who carried out his threaten to hit him.
 18 He was threatened by a while male bus
 19 driver for defending himself against a student
 20 two grades above him. The bus driver alleged
 21 that our child started hitting him, hitting the

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1 white child for no reason. Bus video revealed
 2 the child and a group of others had been
 3 bothering our son for weeks while he was in the
 4 seat directly behind the bus driver.
 5 The following year, the same bus driver
 6 filed another false report alleging our son was
 7 pulling a little white girl's hair and punching
 8 her in the stomach. Bus video revealed the
 9 children were harmlessly playing with each
 10 other. It also revealed the bus driver
 11 screaming and yelling at our child, while
 12 calmly and politely addressing the white
 13 students, all for displaying the same behavior.
 14 The same bus driver then (inaudible) our
 15 business property for months until the
 16 Sheriff's Office investigated and charged him.
 17 Our son was picked up by a white teacher
 18 and drop slammed to the floor. The teacher
 19 alleged he attacked her for no reason. The
 20 video revealed the teacher grabbed him from
 21 behind and drop slammed him to the floor for

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1 playing tag in the hall with his friends.
 2 We requested but the teacher was never
 3 reported to TCPS, much different than they
 4 handled the incident with the elementary child
 5 of color and the principal. That child they
 6 had arrested.
 7 The same teacher, months later, took our
 8 son in front of the classroom and invited the
 9 other children to antagonize him with her.
 10 There are many other instances I could
 11 share with you. But I believe you should have
 12 a clear enough picture of why we need you to
 13 require accountability and oversight of the
 14 Talbot County Public Schools, instead of
 15 allowing them to continue with these
 16 discriminatory and unlawful practices.
 17 Unfortunately, our son was not safe in the
 18 Talbot County Public School system. Due to
 19 their failure to hold their staff accountable,
 20 we had no option other than to remove him from
 21 Talbot County Public Schools.

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1 Private school is expensive, and no family
 2 should be forced to choose private over public
 3 because they fear for the safety of their child
 4 from the staff members.
 5 There are many other families of color
 6 experiencing the same difficulties with TCPS.
 7 But until now, there was no one willing to
 8 listen to our grievances.
 9 The school has been entrusted by every
 10 organization of the community because of their
 11 diversity statements and catch phrases, which
 12 has left the children of color and their
 13 parents at their mercy to be mistreated
 14 continuously.
 15 Council, you have the power to hold them
 16 accountable, and we ask that you hold them
 17 fully accountable.
 18 On behalf of my family, myself, and all
 19 the children who have been mistreated by the
 20 Talbot County Public Schools staff, we are
 21 grateful for you taking the time to hear from

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1 us. Thank you for providing this segment in
 2 your meeting, allowing community members the
 3 opportunity to address you and our fellow
 4 community members.
 5 It's a terrible hardship to endure when
 6 your child is being mistreated.
 7 And we've been to everyone legally. We've
 8 been to the police departments, we've been to
 9 Social Services, we've been through the court
 10 system. And everybody says the same thing,
 11 Talbot County does a great job in their equity
 12 work.
 13 But they failed us, and they failed our
 14 child. Everybody says you need to go back to
 15 the school. Even when I called here and spoke
 16 here, they said you need to go back to the
 17 public school, the public school, this is a
 18 public school issue.
 19 The public school has (inaudible) us out,
 20 trapped us out to leave my children at their
 21 mercy and be mistreated.

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1 In our last conversation, it's not because
 2 we didn't remove our child from Talbot County
 3 Public Schools because these things happened.
 4 We moved him from there because these things
 5 happened and they failed to hold their staff
 6 accountable. In our last address with them
 7 meeting with the head of student services, and
 8 I have the e-mails documented as well of that
 9 conversation where she confirmed she refused us
 10 our right to the Freedoms Act, NPIA request.
 11 She refused us the documents that they had of
 12 our son. She told us directly that we were
 13 left at their mercy, you're going to have to
 14 trust us that we're going to do the right
 15 thing, when they repeatedly over and time and
 16 time again.
 17 And this is just a small list that I read
 18 to you of the things that happened. And we're
 19 talking about one child.
 20 MR. PACK: What grade is this?
 21 MR. BRUMMELL: This is from 2014 from when

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1 he started kindergarten up until second grade.
 2 Second grade is when (inaudible) concussion.
 3 And we didn't remove him until after the
 4 conversation with student services. And they
 5 said well, you're just going to have to trust
 6 us. We're not going -- you know what I mean?
 7 And then the superintendent had the same
 8 attitude.
 9 And we have the transcripts from the
 10 hearings to validate everything that we're
 11 saying here is factual. Nothing has been done
 12 by the school system, superintendent, MSDE.
 13 Everybody kicks us back to the same system.
 14 We've been to the board members.
 15 Everybody kicks us back to the same system
 16 where just to allow our child to be mistreated
 17 and at their mercy.
 18 And we didn't have budgeted in our account
 19 for private school. We pay taxes for our child
 20 to go to public school. And yet here we are
 21 incurring that expense that we didn't have

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1 budgeted for because we fear for his safety and
 2 what this is going to do to him as a child over
 3 and over.
 4 When you talk about one child having these
 5 experiences with people of another race and
 6 this country is the majority, that doesn't
 7 leave much for a chance of success. And if
 8 you're providing an opportunity for a child to
 9 be equally and equitably learned, to learn in
 10 this society, which everyone as a citizen
 11 should be afforded, this has to be looked into.
 12 This has to be stopped.
 13 We even went in the courtroom. Even the
 14 court system referred back to the school
 15 system. And I didn't tell them, but because
 16 they are declared as people of authority, they
 17 will not challenge one another. That's left us
 18 in a horrible position.
 19 MR. PACK: So is there current pending
 20 legislation going on?
 21 MR. BRUMMELL: Pending legislation. We

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1 hired an --

2 MR. PACK: Litigation I should say.

3 Sorry.

4 MR. BRUMMELL: We hired an attorney, one

5 of the best, highly sought after firms here in

6 the county. And come to find out after nine

7 months of dragging their feet, we did look into

8 that, and it's against the law for them to do

9 that, but we found that his wife works for the

10 Talbot County Public School system. He never

11 disclosed this information to us at all.

12 So at the end of nine months later, which

13 puts past the two-year, which puts us exactly

14 past the two-year mark that you have to. . .

15 MS. PRICE: Statute of limitations?

16 MR. BRUMMELL: Thank you, Ms. Price. I

17 was trying to get to it.

18 There's a -- that's why I wrote it down

19 because it's emotional to me, you know, when

20 you see it happen to any child, but when it's

21 happening to my child.

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1 And we've done everything that we could.

2 Even legally, we hired this firm. And they

3 waited right until the statute of limitations

4 was out because it was April of 2020 when the

5 hearing ended.

6 We retained them July 24th of 2019, which

7 left us plenty of time.

8 When we reached April of 2020, he became

9 very combative, didn't want to do the things

10 that we had, and took him that amount of time

11 to have three correspondences with the school

12 system. But he billed us every month right up

13 until June.

14 And then in April, he disclosed to us

15 through a virtual meeting that his wife works

16 for the Talbot County Public Schools, so he

17 can't put his name on a document. He's got

18 another attorney put in -- I said if we had

19 known that, we never would have hired you. And

20 that is a. . .

21 MR. PACK: A conflict.

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1 MR. BRUMMELL: Yeah. A conflict of

2 interest. Not only that, the amount of time

3 that he took to do that and billed us for it.

4 That's another issue with the Attorney

5 Grievance Committee.

6 But what I'm saying to you, barring all

7 that, my child, regardless of what I'm living

8 through or lived through, my child has a right.

9 He has done nothing.

10 He's nine years old now. He has a right

11 to grow up in a world where he's not treated

12 like that. And if he is, then it shouldn't go

13 unnoticed or unchecked. It's heart breaking.

14 And like I said, we've done everything.

15 We've been to the meetings to support them

16 because we know that the public school needs

17 things in order to properly educate and to

18 treat children properly. But it's not

19 happening, it's just not happening. They're

20 don't have a desire of it happening.

21 And when you look at their equity

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1 policies, it's not that they don't have the

2 knowledge of, but they use that knowledge of --

3 this is my -- they never said this to me. But

4 they use that knowledge of and what I've seen

5 and the evidence of how my child has been

6 treated, they've used that knowledge as a way

7 of manipulating the system to come and get

8 funds from you to do whatever they want to do.

9 So if you are -- even though you don't

10 elect them, if I'm giving somebody money, I

11 have a right to ask them and demand of them to

12 know what they're doing with that money, how

13 this money is being implemented and benefiting

14 the community that I intend to support.

15 So I'm asking you. I know you can't go in

16 there, but you can hold them accountable for

17 those monies that you allocate to that budget

18 to make sure the children are treated equally

19 and fairly.

20 My child left a lot of friends behind at

21 that public school. And you know, it's heart

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1 breaking.

2 We haven't told him the real reason why we

3 left. We just told him this is a better school

4 of more of what we believe in, you know.

5 Because we don't want him growing up with that

6 stigma stuck in his mind that people don't like

7 me because of my color. So we didn't fully

8 tell him why we moved him. And we truthfully

9 told him this school is more of what we believe

10 in, we think you will have a better opportunity

11 to learn and fully move forward through life

12 going here, not telling him why we had to move

13 him or what it's costing us to move him.

14 MR. PACK: Mr. Brummell, I certainly

15 sympathize with what you guys are going

16 through.

17 MR. BRUMMELL: Thank you.

18 MR. PACK: I mean this is really shocking

19 to hear.

20 And certainly thank you for waiting around

21 such a long, late hour to speak to Council

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1 about this.

2 Yes, they're an elected board, as we are

3 an elected Council here.

4 MR. BRUMMELL: Yes.

5 MR. PACK: So our oversight is somewhat

6 limited.

7 And I know you did send also some

8 supporting documentation as well.

9 MR. BRUMMELL: I have a lot more. I'll

10 give you whatever you request. I have another

11 terabyte of cloud storage and I have two duffle

12 bags full of documents just for that one child.

13 MR. PACK: And this is a second grader

14 we're talking about? So this is --

15 MR. BRUMMELL: He just passed the fourth

16 now. We removed him there. He's been this

17 last year in private school and he'll be

18 returning there.

19 But for all these other children, we can't

20 afford that either, but for all those other

21 families who can't either, why should we have

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1 to.

2 MR. PACK: I understand.

3 MR. BRUMMELL: You know what I mean? And

4 this is not abuse by children. This is the

5 staff that they have prided themselves in

6 training the policies that they have touted

7 around being number one. And they are great

8 policies, if you read them. I read them in and

9 out. So they are great policies.

10 But they're just not enforced from the

11 bottom up to the top and reverse. They're not

12 holding anyone accountable.

13 MR. PACK: I wish I had a quick answer for

14 you tonight, but I don't. I think this Council

15 is going to have to look at what our options

16 are as far as working with the Board of

17 Education for any response to your allegations.

18 MR. BRUMMELL: Sure.

19 MR. PACK: We can maybe draft something to

20 get over to them and have them respond back to

21 us.

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1 You said right now there is no pending

2 litigation?

3 MR. BRUMMELL: Well, we're talking to

4 firms up in Baltimore. But the statutes of

5 limitations passed.

6 So this is only validated when you can

7 show the continuous treatment of staff failing

8 to protect him. So in 2018, that cut that off.

9 I mean in 2020, April 2020, that cut that off.

10 Now it's just one isolated event within that

11 two-year period that you can bring up.

12 So the people that we're talking to, and

13 we're talking to firms in Baltimore. And if

14 they're not helpful, then it's really -- it's

15 just a shame.

16 This is a tightknit community, a tight

17 network. You are the people that have the

18 power to break it apart. Because you have the

19 money. Without the money, you can't do

20 anything without that.

21 So if you ask them to show accountability

| | |
|--|--|
| <p style="text-align: right;">Page 230</p> <p>1 down to the letter, what are you doing with 2 these funds, then that would make what you're 3 doing more transparent to us and to the 4 community so when we have these complaints, we 5 know how to respond to them because we funded 6 your organization.</p> <p>7 So I mean I do wish there was something 8 that you could do because I would love to see 9 my child -- be able to tell him the true story, 10 full story of how this happened and how we came 11 into a community and the community came 12 together and then we resolved these differences 13 so that your sacrifice and your mistreatment 14 was not in vain, it was not for nothing. But 15 other children will benefit that they won't 16 have to endure this.</p> <p>17 MR. PACK: You gave us a lot to consider. 18 Again, I certainly appreciate you staying 19 around and giving your testimony to Council. 20 We're going to need to probably huddle up 21 and find out how we can request any comment</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">Page 232</p> <p>1 back from them.</p> <p>2 But certainly, I hope that we can ask some 3 questions. And if you get good legal advice, 4 you might be able to -- I don't know. I'm not 5 an attorney. Statute of limitations, because 6 it ran out but it's not because you weren't 7 trying. So hopefully somebody can help you 8 with that. I really wish they had.</p> <p>9 MR. BRUMMELL: I do too.</p> <p>10 MR. LESHER: I appreciate you bringing 11 this to our attention.</p> <p>12 And I only wish that all of our parents 13 were articulate advocates for their children as 14 you are.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: Absolutely.</p> <p>16 MR. BRUMMELL: I love children. I love my 17 children, but I love all children. I'd do 18 anything for them.</p> <p>19 It was worth sitting back on that bench. 20 I would do it again every day. 21 Thank you, thank you all.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">Page 231</p> <p>1 from the Board of Education back to us based on 2 your comments here this evening.</p> <p>3 MS. PRICE: I'm so sorry for everything 4 you're going through.</p> <p>5 MR. BRUMMELL: Thank you. That's the 6 first -- we never heard that from the school. 7 That's the first time we heard that from 8 anyone.</p> <p>9 MS. PRICE: That's terrible.</p> <p>10 MR. BRUMMELL: And I thank you. I really 11 thank you for saying that because we've 12 never -- we haven't received anything but doors 13 slammed in our face, screamed, yelled, cussed 14 at.</p> <p>15 And I didn't understand it. You're the 16 people educating our children.</p> <p>17 MS. PRICE: Sometimes I wish we could hold 18 the School Board a little more accountable for 19 how they spend the money. It's a State 20 mandate. We don't have any control over what 21 they do with it. It's not like we can hold it</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">Page 233</p> <p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: Appreciate it.</p> <p>2 MR. BRUMMELL: If you need any more 3 documents or information, I have it.</p> <p>4 MS. PRICE: And you know what Mr. Leshner 5 said, it makes such a difference when parents 6 are involved. I mean you can't make perfect 7 kids or anything. But it just, when they're 8 involved in their lives, it just makes such a 9 difference for their future. So thank you for 10 being a wonderful dad.</p> <p>11 MR. CALLAHAN: And I want to thank you, 12 too, because what you do, this is on tape. And 13 your son needs to see this in years to come 14 what his father did for him and your family. 15 So that's a milestone to your integrity and who 16 you are.</p> <p>17 And we really appreciate it and I wish we 18 had more people like you to come in front of us 19 so we could take care of some of this stuff.</p> <p>20 MR. BRUMMELL: Thank you for making it 21 possible.</p> |

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1 MR. PACK: Thank you, Mr. Brummell. We
 2 certainly --
 3 MR. BRUMMELL: Thank you, all. I know
 4 it's late. I know you have families, too.
 5 MR. PACK: Best to your family. Thank
 6 you.
 7 MR. BRUMMELL: Thank you. Enjoy your
 8 evening.
 9 MR. PACK: Council comment. Mr. Callahan.
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: I'm good.
 11 MR. PACK: Ms. Price.
 12 MS. PRICE: Just thank you to the people
 13 that are out there, all the letters of support.
 14 It's been a rough few weeks. And I appreciate
 15 all the outreach. It's very much appreciated.
 16 MR. PACK: Mr. Leshner.
 17 MR. LESHER: I have nothing further.
 18 MR. PACK: Let me see here.
 19 County Council's next meeting will be on
 20 July the 21st. That's going to begin at
 21 six p.m. It has been declared a special

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1 legislative day. The Council will be convening
 2 in closed session at 4:30 and then immediately
 3 adjourning into closed session to discuss real
 4 estate, legal, personnel matters, as listed on
 5 the statement for closing that meeting.
 6 That meeting was to take place at the
 7 Talbot County auditorium. But after consulting
 8 with the health officer and hearing her
 9 concerns, the county's positivity rate, which
 10 has now jumped up to about 7.7, and also our
 11 number of confirmed COVID cases have now nearly
 12 approaching 200, the health officer thought it
 13 was best to not have that public hearing at the
 14 auditorium at this time.
 15 So we'll work out the details of perhaps a
 16 virtual hearing for the 21st.
 17 There's also a hearing scheduled for the
 18 28th. That hearing was also to take place at
 19 the Talbot County auditorium. Likewise, I'm
 20 almost certain that these numbers, that is the
 21 positivity rate as well as the confirmed rate

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1 of COVID cases, will still be high on the 28th.
 2 So we're going to probably need to have that as
 3 a virtual hearing as well. And that
 4 information will be posted later this week.
 5 Thank you.
 6 If there's nothing further, Madam
 7 Secretary, on your agenda for us, we're
 8 adjourned. Thank you.
 9 (Meeting concluded at: 9:25 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 Anne Arundel,
 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 I further certify that the examination was
 9 recorded stenographically by me and then transcribed
 10 from my stenographic notes to the within printed
 11 matter by means of computer-assisted transcription
 12 in a true and accurate manner.
 13 I further certify that the stipulations
 14 contained herein were entered into by counsel in my
 15 presence.
 16 I further certify that I am not of counsel
 17 to any of the parties, not an employee of counsel,
 18 nor related to any of the parties, nor in any way
 19 interested in the outcome of this action.
 20 AS WITNESS my hand Notarial Seal this 21st
 21 day of July, 2020, at Easton, MD.



 Diane Houlihan
 Notary Public
 My commission expires September 16, 2021

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