

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes (APPROVED)

Monthly Meeting

June 8, 2009

Chairperson Mary Kay Sigaty called the monthly meeting to order at 8:05 am on June 8, 2009, in the C. Vernon Gray Room, 8930 Stanford Boulevard, Columbia, MD.

Members present: Calvin Ball, Mary Kay Sigaty (departed 9:10am), Jennifer Terrasa (arrived 8:12 am), Greg Fox and Courtney Watson.

Council Members Reports. Ms. Sigaty asked the Council Administrator to summarize the options for handling legislative events falling at the end of December, 2009, around the time of the recently adopted furlough. Following a discussion, the members made the following decisions: (1) the Council will follow the furlough plan; (2) legislation introduced in December that requires either a work session or amendment will be tabled at the voting session in January; and (3) the pre-file deadline for January legislation will be 10:00 am on December 23. The Administrator was asked to distribute a 12 month calendar. The time for the Monthly Meetings will be determined later.

Ms. Terrasa stated that the deadline for legislative ideas for MACo is June 19, 2009. The next Legislative Committee Meeting is July 8, 2009.

Ms. Sigaty asked Jim Irvin and Steve Gerwin to explain the Little Patuxent Water Reclamation Plant Enhancement Project. Mr. Gerwin made a power point presentation showing the history of the plant from 1962 to the present. The project broke ground in May and is scheduled for completion in February, 2012. Continuous plant operation during construction will be a challenge. The project will provide Enhanced Nutrient Removal (ENR) in addition to the existing Bio Nutrient Removal (BNR). The resultant reduction in nitrogen and phosphorous is at the limits of technology. The project price tag of \$100 million is divided among flush tax (\$35 million), State revolving loans (\$18 million) and County money (\$47 million). The critical factor going forward will be the cap on nitrogen, rather than flow. There is a small margin for unanticipated plant events or excursions. It is still unclear how the permit will account for reuse rather than discharge. The calculation is important in accounting for growth in downtown Columbia and elsewhere. Finally, the project will provide 100 jobs.

Staff Reports. The Administrator indicated that the annual office retreat will be held at the Waverly mansion on August 13, 2009. The County Auditor summarized the audits completed in May and pending audits.

Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, Division of Neighborhood Revitalization. Carol Gilbert, Assistant Secretary, made a power point

presentation. Also present: John Papagni, Policy and Special Projects manager; Kevin Baynes, Director, Community Legacy; and Dawn Medley, Neighborhood Business Works Division. There was a discussion of Designated Neighborhoods, Community Legacy, and Neighborhood Business Works. Steve Lafferty, Planning and Zoning, will investigate available opportunities for Ellicott City. DHCD will provide additional information on its Link Deposit program for minority businesses. Ms. Terrasa inquired whether Community Legacy is available as planning money and could be explored for the older villages, for example Wilde Lake and Oakland Mills.

Other Business. Ms. Watson asked that the members be informed of the timetable for comments for the anticipated meeting with the Maryland State Department of Education regarding Maryland's *Preschool for All Business Plan*.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.