

**County Council of Dorchester County
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 10, 2016**

The County Council of Dorchester County met in regular session on May 10, 2016 with the following members present: Ricky C. Travers, President; Tom C. Bradshaw, Vice President; William V. Nichols; Rick M. Price and Don B. Satterfield. Also present were E. Thomas Merryweather, County Attorney; Jeremy Goldman, County Manager; and Donna Lane, Executive Administrative Specialist.

REGULAR SESSION

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Bradshaw led the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS

The Council approved the vouchers as presented with Councilman Bradshaw abstaining for reimbursements.

FINANCIAL REPORT: CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Councilman Travers reported total cash and investments as \$5,780,837.29.

REGULAR SESSION

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

E. Thomas Merryweather, County Attorney, said this is the second public hearing on the 2016-2017 annual budget appropriation ordinance. He noted that the legislative public hearing/adoption of the proposed budget will be held on May 17, 2016.

Dr. Barbara Viniar, President, Chesapeake College, thanked the Council for its support for a 2% budget increase that was agreed upon by the support counties of the College at an April 28, 2016 dinner meeting. She said 1254 Dorchester County residents take credit, continuing education and workforce courses at the College and/or the Cambridge Center. She explained that the College provides the employees at the Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Gold Resort, Spa and Marina and Cambridge International educational assistance. She said the College, in conjunction with the public school system, offers nail technician and cosmetology classes at the Dorchester Career and Technology Center (DCTC). Dr. Viniar explained that College staff have recently been in contact with school personnel regarding offering a customized welding program at DCTC for employees at Cambridge International. She expressed dismay about the proposed reduction of the College's maintenance and repair request by 20% which will delay improvements to the Cambridge Center. She noted that two years ago \$250,000 was spent to replace the roof and repair the HVAC at this facility and controls will be installed soon. Dr. Viniar referenced the College's past efforts to set aside funding for unexpected emergency repairs. She expressed a desire to meet with Council prior to next year's support counties' meeting on the College's budget to discuss future needs and thanked them for the opportunity to speak.

Mr. Merryweather noted that the Council can make comments now or reserve them until the May 17th proposed budget adoption. The Council adjourned the public hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

In response to questions posed by Donald Gray, resident, about the Hearn Building, Jeremy Goldman, County Manager, said: 1) the Council accepted a grant in the amount of \$500,00 for stabilization; 2) applications were sent for two additional grants which total approximately \$60,000; 3) one of the two smaller grants has a significant local match and has not been accepted by Council; 4) no additional funding sources have been identified; and, 5) and the only construction authorized is the stabilization of the front wall. He explained that construction has been temporary delayed due to a mechanical equipment failure and will hopefully commence tomorrow. In response to concerns expressed by Mr. Gray about monies spent on this project, Mr. Merryweather noted that local contractors are being utilized which benefits the local economy.

Pursuant to an inquiry from Pete Macinta, resident, Councilman Travers said Mr. Goldman and Tom Moore, Public Works Director, met with Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of Governor Larry Hogan, regarding the Council's concerns about the Zero Waste Executive Order issued by the prior Governor which is hindering the County's ability to address solid waste needs. Based on another inquiry from Mr. Macinta, Mr. Goldman and Councilman Travers advised that an electronic recycling event will be held shortly. Mr. Goldman said he will email Mr. Macinta the status of that event.

COUNCIL'S COMMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Bradshaw asked the Council to convene into closed session because he has personnel issues relating to the proposed FY17 budget he would like to discuss.

Councilman Travers noted that any changes should be discussed prior to the May 17th meeting to provide staff sufficient time to incorporate them into the budget bill. He announced that: 1) the next County Council meeting will be held on May 17, 2016 at 6 p.m. during which a legislative budget public hearing/adoption will be held on the proposed FY 2017 budget; and, 2) The Council reserves the right to meet in closed session prior to its regular session on these dates.

With no further business to discuss, the Council adjourned into closed session.

ATTEST:

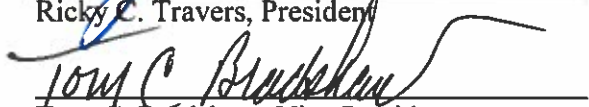


Jeremy Goldman
County Manager

DORCHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL:



Ricky C. Travers, President



Tom C. Bradshaw, Vice President



William V. Nichols



Rick M. Price



Don B. Satterfield