COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND
Minutes of
Legislative Session 2022, Legislative Day No. 11
May 16, 2022 - 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Chair Rodvien. The Invocation was given by Ms. Lacey, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held in the County Council Chambers, Arundel Center, Annapolis, Maryland. There were approximately 15 persons in the audience.

The following members of the County Council were present:

Sarah F. Lacey	First District
Allison Pickard	Second District
Nathan Volke	Third District
Andrew C. Pruski	Fourth District
Amanda Fiedler	Fifth District
Lisa D.B. Rodvien	Sixth District
Jessica Haire	Seventh District

The County Auditor’s Office was represented by Michelle Bohlayer.

PRESENTATION OF CITATIONS

Ms. Rodvien presented Corporal Eric Thomasson and Corporal Mark Balonis of the Anne Arundel County Place Department with Council citations for their service and their quick action during the May 2, 2022 meeting.

ETHICS STATEMENT

Laura Corby, Administrative Officer, read aloud the Ethics Statement.

INVITATION TO AUDIENCE

The Chair opened Invitation to Audience.

The Administrative Officer stated there were no submissions of public testimony received for Invitation to Audience portion of the meeting.

The following persons spoke on the Invitation to Audience:

Melissa Edgar, Mayo Elementary

There was no one else present who wished to speak, and the Invitation to Audience was concluded.

PRELIMINARY MOTION

On motion of Ms. Pickard, seconded by Mr. Pruski, the Council voted that the partial reading of any bill, resolution, minutes, or amendment constitutes the reading of the whole.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Ms. Lacey, seconded by Ms. Pickard, minutes for the following meetings were unanimously approved:

April 29, 2022 – FY23 Budget Presentation
May 2, 2022 – Legislative Day No. 10
May 4, 2022 – FY23 Budget Departmental Presentations
May 5, 2022 – FY23 Budget Departmental Presentations
May 9, 2022 – FY23 Budget Public Hearing
May 11, 2022 – FY23 Budget Departmental Presentations
May 12, 2022 – FY23 Budget Departmental Presentations

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

BILL NO. 54-22 – AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE concerning: Current Expense Budget – Fourth Quarter Fund Transfer and Supplementary Appropriations – FOR the purpose of transferring appropriations of funds between certain offices, departments, institutions, boards, commissions or other agencies in the general fund and to certain special funds of the County government for the current fiscal year; making this Ordinance an emergency measure; and generally relating to transferring appropriations of funds and making supplementary appropriations of funds to the current expense budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.
Introduced by Ms. Rodvien
(by request of the County Executive)

BILL NO. 55-22 – AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE concerning: Current Expense Budget – Board of Education – Supplementary Appropriation and Transfers of Funds – FOR the purpose of transferring appropriations of funds between certain offices, departments, institutions, boards, commissions or other agencies in the general fund; making supplementary appropriations from unanticipated revenues to the Local Education Fund for the current fiscal year; making this Ordinance an emergency measure; and generally current expense budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.
Introduced by Ms. Rodvien
(by request of the County Executive)

BILL NO. 56-22 – AN ORDINANCE concerning: Personal Property Tax Credits – Foreign Trade Zone – FOR the purpose of extending the termination date established by Bill No. 87-01, as amended by Bill Nos. 38-07, 19-12, and 1-17, of a certain personal property tax credit for personal property located in foreign trade zones; and providing for the application of this Ordinance.
Introduced by Ms. Rodvien
(by request of the County Executive)

BILL NO. 57-22 – AN ORDINANCE concerning: Zoning – Nurseries with Landscaping and Plant Sales – FOR the purpose of amending the definition of “nurseries with landscaping and plant sales”; adding a conditional use requirement for “nurseries with landscaping and plant sales” to allow the storage and display of certain materials on a portion of the lot; and generally relating to zoning.
Introduced by Ms. Haire and Ms. Fiedler

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO. 11-22 – RESOLUTION approving the determination of certain County-owned property, located on the North side of Overlea Drive in Severna Park, Maryland, as surplus property.
Introduced by Ms. Rodvien, Chair

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX RATE (Constant Yield)

Chris Trumbauer, Budget Officer, spoke on the Constant Yield Tax Rate. (A copy of the remarks given is attached to these minutes.)

Ms. Rodvien stated that the County Council will set the property tax rate at the meeting beginning at 9:00 A.M. on June 14, 2022.

The Chair called for the public hearing on the Constant Yield/Property Tax Rate.

The Administrative Officer stated there were no submissions of public testimony received for this topic.

The following persons spoke on the Constant Yield/Property Tax Rate:

Lois Shofer, Crownsville

There was one else present who wished to speak and the hearing was concluded. The Chair stated that the public hearings will continue, with the second hearing being held on May 18, 2022 at North County High School.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND CALL OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL READING AND/OR VOTE

BILL NO. 33-22 (As Amended)

The Chair called for Bill No. 33-22, An Ordinance concerning: Zoning – Residential Districts – Requirements for Conditional Uses – Townhouses for the purpose of allowing townhouses as a conditional use in R22 residential zoning districts; amending the conditional use requirements for townhouses; and generally relating to zoning.

The Administrative Officer read a portion of the title.

Pete Baron, Director, Government Affairs, was accompanied by Lori Rhodes, Government Affairs, Lori Blair Klasmeier, Office of Law.

Mr. Pruski, as a sponsor, addressed some of the comments on the bill that were received.

Mr. Baron stated that the Administration supports Bill No. 33-22.

The Chair called for the public hearing on Bill No. 33-22.

The Administrative Officer stated there were no submissions of public testimony received ahead of time for Bill No. 33-22.

There was no one present who wished to speak and the hearing was concluded. The Chair called for the title of Bill No. 34-22 to be read and the Administrative Officer read a portion of the title.

Ms. Haire asked a clarifying question about Bill No. 33-22.

Bill No. 33-22 was passed by the following roll call:

Aye – Ms. Haire, Ms. Lacey, Ms. Pickard, Mr. Volke, Mr. Pruski, Ms. Fiedler, and Ms. Rodvien
Nay – None

BILL NO. 34-22

The Chair called for the public hearing on Bill No. 34-22, an Ordinance concerning: Current Expense Budget – Transfer of Appropriation – Chief Administrative Office – Department of Public Works FOR the purpose of transferring an appropriation of funds from the Contingency Account of the Chief Administrative Office to the Department of Public Works; and generally relating to transferring appropriations of funds in the current expense budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

The Administrative Officer read a portion of the title.

Pete Baron, Director, Government Affairs, was accompanied by Karen Henry and Alex Baquie, Department of Public Works, Chris Trumbauer, Budget Office, and Lori Blair Klasmeier, Office of Law.

Mr. Baron explained the purpose of Bill No. 34-22.

The Chair called for the public hearing on Bill No. 34-22.

The Administrative Officer stated there were no submissions of public testimony received ahead of time for Bill No. 34-22.

There was no one present who wished to speak and the hearing was concluded. The Chair called for the title of Bill No. 34-22 to be read and the Administrative Officer read a portion of the title.

Bill No. 34-22 was passed by the following roll call vote:

Aye – Ms. Haire, Ms. Lacey, Ms. Pickard, Mr. Volke, Mr. Pruski, Ms. Fiedler, and Ms. Rodvien
Nay – None

BILL NO. 35-22

The Chair called for Bill No. 35-22, An Ordinance concerning: Gibson Island Special Community Benefit District –Approval of Loan and Assignment Agreement – FOR the purpose of obligating the County to levy the special tax known as the special community benefit assessment on the Gibson Island Special Community Benefit District in an amount sufficient to repay a loan from M&T Bank to the Gibson Island Corporation in each of up to ten (10) fiscal years during the term of the loan.

The Administrative Officer read a portion of the title.

Pete Baron, Director, Government Affairs, was accompanied by Chris Trumbauer, Budget Office, and Lori Blair Klasmeier, Office of Law.

The Chair called for the public hearing on Bill No. 35-22.

The Administrative Officer stated there were no submissions of public testimony received ahead of time for Bill No. 35-22.

There was no one present who wished to speak and the hearing was concluded. The Chair called for the title of Bill No. 35-22 to be read and the Administrative Officer read a portion of the title.

Bill No. 35-22 was passed by the following roll call vote:

Aye – Ms. Haire, Ms. Lacey, Ms. Pickard, Mr. Volke, Mr. Pruski, Ms. Fiedler, and Ms. Rodvien
Nay – None

BILL NO. 36-22

The Chair called for Bill No. 36-22, an Ordinance concerning: Licenses and Registrations – Amusements – Linked Bingo Games – FOR the purpose of amending certain definitions; allowing players to participate virtually in linked bingo games under certain circumstances; requiring certain notices and signs for linked bingo games; amending the requirements of a linked bingo game provider license; and generally relating to licenses and registrations.

The Administrative Officer read a portion of the title.

Pete Baron, Director, Government Affairs, was accompanied by Lori Blair Klasmeier, Office of Law.

Mr. Baron explained there were important discussions still ongoing and expressed the Administration's desire to see the vote held on Bill No. 36-22.

There was some discussion by the Council regarding "holding the vote" versus closing the public hearing.

The Chair called for the public hearing of Bill No. 36-22.

The Administrative Officer stated there were no submissions of public testimony received ahead of time for Bill No. 36-22.

The following persons spoke on Bill No. 36-22:

Cathy Beeding, Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland

There was no one else present who wished to speak.

On motion of Ms. Rodvien, seconded by Ms. Lacey, the public hearing for Bill No. 36-22 was held open by the following roll call:

Aye – Ms. Haire, Ms. Lacey, Ms. Pickard, Mr. Volke, Mr. Pruski, Ms. Fiedler, and Ms. Rodvien
Nay – None

Ms. Rodvien stated the public hearing on Bill No. 36-22 would be continued to June 6, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion of Mr. Volke, seconded by Mr. Pruski, the meeting adjourned at 7:32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Ann Aluise

By Ann Aluise

/s/ Laura Corby

For Laura Corby
Administrative Office

Prepared Remarks of the Budget Officer

May 16, 2022

Good evening, Madame Chair and members of the County Council, for the record, I am Chris Trumbauer, County Budget Officer. Thank you for the opportunity to kick-off tonight's FY2023 Constant Yield Property Tax Rate Hearing.

Section 2-205 of the Property Tax Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland requires the State Department of Assessments and Taxation to certify constant yield property tax rate to all taxing authorities. The constant yield rate would produce the same total revenue in the upcoming year as was produced in the prior taxable year, exclusive of new construction.

The law further provides that if the taxing authority intends to establish a tax rate greater than the constant yield tax rate, it must advertise and a hold a public hearing. An advertisement that adheres to the procedures required by State law was reviewed and approved by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation and placed by this County Council in the local newspaper.

Anne Arundel County's constant yield tax rates per $100 of taxable assessment for FY2023 are certified by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation as follows:

92.93 cents for the County, excluding Annapolis and Highland Beach

55.37 cents for Annapolis; and

89.55 cents for Highland Beach.

The FY2023 Proposed Budget keeps the real property tax rate unchanged from the current year at 93.3 cents per $100 of assessment for the County, excluding the City of Annapolis and Highland Beach. This rate is 0.4% higher than the constant yield rate of 92.93 cents, and will generate $2.8 million in additional property tax revenues above the constant yield amount.

Additionally, the FY2023 County tax rate applicable to the City of Annapolis real property is similarly kept unchanged at 55.9 cents per $100 of assessment in the proposed budget. The rate is 1.0% higher than the constant yield rate of 55.37 cents, and will generate $0.4 million in additional property tax revenues above the constant yield amount.

Finally, for the Highland Beach, the FY2023 County real property tax rate is also kept unchanged at 90.3 cents per $100 of assessment in the proposed budget. This proposed rate is 0.8% more than the constant yield tax rate of 89.55 cents, and will generate $2,541 more in property taxes than the constant yield amount.

As required by law, this public hearing has been scheduled.

Thank you, and good evening.