

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CAROLINE COUNTY
109 Market Street, Room 106, Denton, Maryland

WORK SESSION
July 3, 2018

Present: President, Larry C. Porter; Vice President, Wilbur Levensgood; Commissioner, Daniel J. Franklin; Heather Price, County Attorney; Ken Decker, County Administrator; Sara Visintainer, Chief of Staff; and Jennifer Farina, Administrative Coordinator

The Work Session convened at 9:04 a.m.

Topic One: Review of New Sheriff's Office Plans

Tim Crosby, Architect, Crosby and Associates, stated that he has been meeting with the Sheriff's Office for the past few months to track costs on the current design of the new Sheriff's Office, and to establish any changes that could be made if the project came in over budget. Mr. Crosby stated that minor changes have already been made to downsize the project, which is still estimated at \$3.5 million. He stated that the project will be bid out by December 1, 2018.

The Commissioners asked if Mr. Crosby and the Sheriff's Office had a plan if the project came in over budget. Mr. Crosby stated that he would sit down with the Sheriff and staff and go over each element of the building to help cut costs and keep only what is necessary. Mr. Crosby stated that there are public safety elements of the building that are mandated, however, they can safely cost by cutting out the amount of brick that is in the building, as well as eliminating the tower.

The Commissioners stated that they would like to hire local contractors to work on the project. Supporting Caroline County businesses remains their number one priority when new projects are being built in the county.

Topic Two: Potential Local Critical Area Ordinance

Katheleen Freeman and Matt Kaczynski, Planning and Codes Department, explained that the State of Maryland mandates an enforcement of the State Critical Area law, however the County could also adopt a local ordinance. The State would like all counties to adopt a local ordinance, but the Commissioners and Planning staff have been concerned that a local ordinance will not give the County any flexibility over the areas of the Critical Area law that they feel are unreasonable and overreaching. Ms. Freeman stated that she would review Dorchester County's recently adopted a local critical area ordinance, but expects it does not provide much flexibility from the State standards. She also stated that the Critical Area Commission would be releasing a new State model ordinance for local governments. Staff was directed to review the model ordinance and create a list of specific provisions for which the County would seek alternate language or flexibility, and forward that to the Chair of the Critical Area Commission for comment.

Topic Three: Open Discussion Period

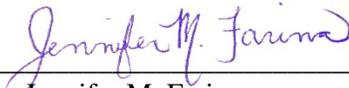
- Ms. Visintainer stated that Revered Dunn reached out to the Tax Office to discuss the agreement the County had with him when they were rebuilding the church on Brunkhorst Road following the fire that destroyed it. Ms. Visintainer stated that the Commissioners had agreed that there would be no water payment due until the church was reopened. Revered Dunn was concerned because he felt the church was exempt from the water bill forever. The Commissioners stated that the agreement was to hold off the payment while the church was being rebuilt, however once it is open and operating as normal, the payment will need to be made.
- Mr. Decker stated that the Office of Human Resources has moved back into the Goldsboro House and everyone is working and feeling healthy.

- Commissioner Levensgood stated that he attended the Maryland Association of Counties Board of Directors summer conference Thursday and Friday.
- Commissioner Porter stated that he received a phone call from Glen Plutschak with a concern regarding basketball programs in the southern end of the County. He stated that Mr. Plutschak would like to have the new YMCA that is proposed for Caroline County offer such programs, due to the lack of programs available for the youth in the southern end of the County.

Closed Session:

- Discussion of Legal Advice Regarding a Zoning Issue
- Authority: Maryland Code, General Provisions Article 3-305(b)(7)
- Convene in closed at 10:31a.m., motion by Commissioner Franklin, seconded by Commissioner Levensgood, unanimous.
- Adjourn closed session at 11:32 a.m.; motion by Commissioner Franklin, seconded by Commissioner Levensgood; unanimous.
- President's Report: The Commissioners met with staff and the County attorney to receive legal advice regarding the applicability of zoning laws to an application for surface mining.

There being no further discussion the work session ended at 11:34 a.m.



Jennifer M. Farina
Administrative Coordinator