

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CAROLINE COUNTY**  
Health and Public Services (HAPS) Building  
403 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street Room 111  
Denton, MD 21629

**Minutes**  
**September 13, 2022**

Present: President Larry C. Porter; Vice President Daniel J. Franklin, Commissioner Wilbur Levensgood, Jr.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM.

Invocation by George Simmons – Pastor of St. Paul United Methodist Church – Greensboro

**Public Comment:** Mr. Matthew Reinheimer of Ridgley Maryland stated that around 4pm on Saturday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> on Tribbett Circle in Ridgley, the family dog, McGraw (Chocolate Lab) was killed from stray bullets during a child’s birthday party. He stated that there were 10 people around the pool at the time the bullets whizzed by everyone and that it is a miracle that no one was killed. He is testifying for his pregnant sister, who is too distraught to testify. Mr. Reinheimer is asking the Commissioners to find a way to prosecute this case.

**Stewart Barroll, County Attorney – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading & Introduction - Legislative Bill #2022-004 – Chapter 166 Taxation– §166-7 Exemptions from County Transfer Tax - Repeal and**

**Reenactment:** FOR the purposes of: (1) providing that the County transfer tax does not apply to the first \$25,000.00 of the consideration payable on an instrument of writing conveying owner-occupied residential property if the grantees intends use the property as the grantee’s principal residence by actually occupying the residence for at least 7 months of a 12-month period; (2) providing that the County transfer tax does not apply to the first \$75,000.00 of the consideration payable on an instrument of writing conveying improved residential real property to a first-time Maryland home buyer; and (3) providing that to qualify for these exemptions the instrument of writing must contain a statement under oath by the grantees attesting to these facts. Mr. Barroll stated that the public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Franklin made a motion to schedule this for a public hearing. Commissioner Levensgood seconded the motion. All three Commissioners voted to schedule the public hearing.

**Stewart Barroll, County Attorney – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading & Introduction - Legislative Bill #2022-005 – Chapter 49 Personnel, Article III – Volunteer Firefighter Length of Service Award**

**Program Trust:** AN Act to create Chapter 49 Personnel, Article III, Volunteer Firefighter Length of Service Award Program Trust(the LOSAP Trust),of the Code of Public Local Laws of Caroline County, Maryland; FOR the purpose of creating a trust fund containing the money provided by the County Commissioners for the benefit of the LOSAP, to create the LOSAP Trust Board, determine its membership to consist of three members: the County Administrator, the Director of Finance, and the County Attorney; and to designate the person who determines the eligibility of Trust Board members for indemnification by the County to be fiduciary counsel selected by the County Commissioners. Mr. Goldman stated this is for investment only. Commissioner Franklin stated this an initial investment. Mr. Barroll stated that the public

hearing is scheduled for Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing. Commissioner Levensgood made a motion to schedule this for a public hearing. Commissioner Franklin seconded the motion. All three Commissioners voted to schedule the public hearing.

**Katheleen Freeman, Director of Planning & Codes and Crystal Dadds, Assistant Director of Planning – Permitting Process Demo & Discussion:** Ms. Dadds presented the Commissioners with the system that Planning & Codes uses for permitting in Caroline County (LLAMA). Ms. Dadds went step-by-step over “LLAMA” on what the process is from start to finish with a fake permit application. Commissioner Porter mentioned that is a time-consuming process just to build a deck. Ms. Dadds explained that she can access permits from back to 2007 easily. The Commissioners thanked Ms. Dadds for taking the time to explain and show them the process.

**Consent Agenda/Action Items: (All three Commissioners voted unanimously to pass the consent agenda):**

- Minutes –September 6, 2022 – Open
- [Bond Transfer – Capital Improvement Fund \(39\) – Bond Proceeds to the Board of Education for Expenses Incurred thru 6/30/2022 - \\$546,956.85](#)

**County Administrators Report – Jeremy Goldman:** Mr. Goldman mentioned that it is the time of the year to discuss Holiday CHEER and the calendar COLA. Mr. Fox stated that the County has \$3.9M to the good on the closeout of FY22 with a fund balance close to \$24M. Mr. Goldman stated that the fund balance requires us to hold 10% of operating budget. Mr. Fox believes that we should be around 25%. Mr. Goldman suggested giving the employees the same bonus Mr. Goldman stated that the first paycheck of the year is January 4<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Franklin stated that it is vitally important to keep employees and to do this. Commissioner Levensgood stated that he agrees. Commissioner Franklin made a motion to give full time employees a \$1,000 bonus check, part-time employees \$500 bonus checks, and a 3% mid-fiscal year COLA. Commissioner Franklin seconded the motion. All three Commissioners voted to give staff bonus checks for the Holiday Season and a 3% mid-fiscal year COLA.

**County Commissioners Open Discussion:** Commissioner Levensgood stated that he attended “Sue’s show” in Greensboro (Tour of North County Park). Commissioner Franklin has nothing more to discuss. Commissioner Porter stated he attended the double eagle scout ceremony at the church. Walt Palmer does a great job and has fine young men in the program. Commissioner Porter also stated that he had a quarterly meeting with Dr. Coppersmith at Chesapeake College.

**Public Comment:** Commissioner Porter stated that letter the Commissioners received a letter from Frank Adams regarding AquaCon.

Commissioner Franklin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Levensgood seconded. All three Commissioners voted to adjourn the meeting.

There being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

*Kaleigh E. Leager*

Kaleigh Leager  
Executive Assistant to the County Commissioners