

March 9, 2023

The regular meeting of the County Commissioners of Allegany County was held in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Allegany Room 100, 701 Kelly Road, Cumberland, at 5:00 p.m. on the above date. The following were present: Commissioner David J. Caporale; Commissioner William R. Atkinson; County Administrator Jason M. Bennett; and County Attorney T. Lee Beeman, Jr. Commissioner Creade V. Brodie, Jr. was not able to be present at this evening's meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

MOTION #1

Commissioner Atkinson requested that item 9 under the Consent Agenda be changed as follows: Item 9 – Appointment of Gary W. Hankins to the Allegany County Administration Charging Commission – Board of County Commissioners to approve the appointment of Gary W. Hankins to the Allegany County Administrative Charging Commission for a two-year term. Item 9 was changed with no objection.

There were no further additions or deletions to the Agenda.

MOTION #2

Upon Motion made by Commissioner Atkinson, seconded by Commissioner Caporale, and duly carried, the Minutes of the February 23, 2023 public business meeting were approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

ACTION AGENDA

Item 1 – Request for Tax Abatement – Board of County Commissioners to approve the abatement of past due property taxes for two tax parcels for property located at 340 Frederick Street, Cumberland, Maryland. This abatement of taxes is done in coordination with efforts by the City of Cumberland to rehabilitate the property for the Carver Community Center, a non-profit organization – T. Lee Beeman, Jr., County Attorney, presented background and details about this Item. He confirmed that the Carver Community Center is located on the subject property. Attorney Beeman also pointed out to the Commissioners that they have previously taken action to abate current year taxes for the Carver Community Center.

Attorney Beeman explained to the Commissioners that the City of Cumberland is putting a great deal of effort into rehabilitation of the Carver Community Center and has reached out to the County to request assistance.

Upon Motion made by Commissioner Atkinson, and seconded by Commissioner Caporale, the Board of County Commissioners approved the abatement of past due property taxes for two tax parcels for property located at 340 Frederick Street, Cumberland, Maryland. This abatement of taxes is done in coordination with efforts by the City of Cumberland to rehabilitate the property for the Carver Community Center, a non-profit organization.

CONSENT AGENDA

As recommended by the County Administrator

Upon Motion by Commissioner Atkinson, seconded by Commissioner Caporale, and Motion carried, the Board of County Commissioners approved and adopted the Consent Agenda as recommended by the County Administrator.

Item 2 – Tech Incubator Development Lease – Board of County Commissioners approved the lease agreement between Western Maryland Builders, LLC, and the Board of County Commissioners for the property located at 20 E. Main Street, Frostburg, Maryland, for the purpose of developing a tech incubator.

Item 3 – Field Use Agreement – Board of County Commissioners approved the Field Use Agreement between Braddock Warriors Baseball Organization, Washington Patriots Baseball Organization, and Allegany County for the use of the old Allegany High School baseball field and parking lot, and agreed to have the President of the County Commissioners sign the agreement.

Item 4 – Electrical Engineering Design Services for Brook Building Generator – Board of County Commissioners approved the proposal from East Hills Engineering Associates, LLC for the electrical engineering design services for a new generator for the Brook Building.

Item 5 – Renewal of Mulch Site Agreement – Board of County Commissioners approved extending the agreement with Dotson’s Contracting for the purpose of grinding yard waste into mulch for purchase and removal at the Allegany County Yard Trimmings and Mulch Site.

Item 6 – Purchase of Vehicles – Board of County Commissioners authorized the Allegany County Sheriff’s Office Detention Center to purchase two (2) 2023 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles in the amount of \$47,636 each, from Hertrich Fleet Services, Inc., Milford, Delaware.

Item 7 – LaVale Sanitary Commission Board Appointment – Board of County Commissioners approved the re-appointment of Richard J. McKenzie to the LaVale Sanitary Commission. His term will expire on March 9, 2029.

Item 8 – Allegany County Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board Appointment – Board of County Commissioners approved the re-appointment of Amanda Paul as a member of the Allegany County Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board. Her term will expire on February 8, 2028. The Board of County Commissioners also, approved the re-appointment of Carl Robinette. His term will expire on April 26, 2028.

Item 9 – Allegany County Administrative Charging Commission Appointments – Board of County Commissioners approved the appointment of Gary W. Hankins to the Allegany County Administrative Charging Commission for a two-year term.

Constituents – In order of sign-up sheet –

Mr. Chad Fousek, 122 McCullough Street, Frostburg, of Chad and Nathan Ventures, LLC, talked about some issues regarding the County's tax sale.

Commissioner Atkinson told Mr. Fousek that the County will get back to him about the tax sale issues he discussed.

County Attorney Lee Beeman had no further comments to make at this evening's meeting.

County Administrator Jason Bennett talked about the upcoming budget season, announcing that the first round of budget hearings will take place on March 23, 2023 at 1 p.m. He also reported that the Constant Yield Hearing will be held at public meeting on March 23, 2023.

Commissioners' statements, comments, recognition –

Commissioner William Atkinson had no further comments to make at this evening's meeting.

Commissioner David Caporale said that obviously the Commissioners will continue to monitor the Hunter Douglas situation. He reported that the County's website will be updated with additional information, to include information on jobs and job training, as well as resources to assist those affected by the Hunter Douglas closing.

Reminders/Upcoming Meetings -

Next Public Business Meeting – Thursday, March 23, 2023 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come to the attention of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

David J. Caporale, President

True Copy
Attest:

Cynthia A. Young
Recording Secretary