

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF FREDERICK COUNTY MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday, March 17, 2020**

Council Members M.C. Keegan-Ayer, President; Michael Blue, Vice-President, Jerry Donald, Kai Hagen, Jessica Fitzwater, Phil Dacey and Steve McKay were present for the meeting.

Also present were Ragen Cherney, Chief of Staff, County Council; Bryon Black, Assistant County Attorney; Sarah Ambrosio, Recording Secretary; and Sydnee Klimko, Legislative Analyst, County Council.

Council President M.C. Keegan-Ayer called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the first floor hearing room, Winchester Hall, 12 East Church Street, Frederick, Maryland.

The meeting began with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Action on the Agenda

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to approve the agenda, as presented. Council Member Kai Hagen seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Public Comment was heard from:

- None

Business Items:

Budget Adjustments

- J-20-219 – Planning and Permitting Division
- J-20-221 – Sheriff’s Office
- J-20-223 – Health Services Division
- J-20-225 – Utilities and Solid Waste Management Division

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to approve the budget adjustments J-20-219, J-20-221, J-20-223 and J-20-225, as presented. Council Member Jerry Donald seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

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Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Board of Education Non-Recurring Cost Exclusions

Kelly Weaver, Director, Budget Office, presented information to the Council on the Board of Education Non-Recurring Cost Exclusions.

Council Member Steve McKay moved to approve the Board of Education Non-Recurring Cost Exclusions as presented. Council Member Kai Hagen seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Approval of Minutes from February 25, 2020

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to approve the minutes from February 25, 2020 as presented. Council Member Kai Hagen seconded the motion that passed 5-0-2. Council Members Michael Blue and Steve McKay abstained.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay			X
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue			X
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Approval of Minutes from March 3, 2020

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Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to approve the minutes March 3, 2020 as presented. Council Member Kai Hagen seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Confirmation of County Executive's Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Joyce Grossnickle, Administrative Officer, briefed the Council on the Confirmation of County Executive’s Appointments to Boards and Commissions.

Commission on Disabilities

Council Member Steve McKay moved to approve the confirmation of Mr. Darrell Batson to the Commission on Disabilities for the term to expire June 30, 2020; and for a new three-year term effective July 1, 2020, to expire June 30, 2023. Council Member Jessica Fitzwater seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Sustainability Commission

Council Member Kai Hagen moved to approve the confirmation of Mr. Robert Brenneman, Ph.D. to the Sustainability Commission for the term to expire June 30, 2022. Council Member Jessica Fitzwater seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		

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District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Third Reading Calendar:

Bill No. 20-03 Providing Additional Support for Agricultural Preservation by Increasing the Recordation Tax Rate and Reallocating Recordation Tax Revenues

Council Member Jerry Donald moved to approve Bill No. 20-03 Revised Electric Lighting District Tax as presented Providing Additional Support for Agricultural Preservation by Increasing the Recordation Tax Rate and Reallocating Recordation Tax Revenues. Council Member Steve McKay seconded the motion.

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater presented Amendment #1 as follows:

AMENDMENT 1 to Bill No. 20-03 _____

Introduced By: Council Member Jessica Fitzwater (District 4)

Introduction Date: March 17, 2020

Adopted/Rejected/Withdrawn:

An ACT to: Provide additional support for agricultural preservation by increasing the recordation tax rate and reallocating recordation tax revenues, including dedicating a portion of the new tax revenues to: 1) agriculture diversification economic development grants; 2) rural historic preservation; and 3) first-time homebuyer assistance.

On Exhibit 1 , Page 2 , it is hereby amended by adding the text as follows:

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, THAT THIS ACT SHALL TAKE EFFECT OCTOBER 1, 2020. *

*It is intended that this provision not be codified with the remainder of the Bill.

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to approve Amendment #1, Council Member Steve McKay seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		

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Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		
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The Council then acted on Bill No. 20-03 as amended. Motion passed 6-1.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey		X	
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Public Comment was heard from:

- None

Council Member Comments:

Council Member comments were provided.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

M.C. Keegan-Ayer, President
County Council