

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF FREDERICK COUNTY  
MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, June 9, 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, County Attorney; Sarah Ambrosio, Recording Secretary; and Nancy Lune, Executive Assistant, County Council.

Council President M.C. Keegan-Ayer called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. virtually via video conference.

**Opening Statement from Council President M.C. Keegan-Ayer**

Good Evening and welcome to the virtual meeting of the Frederick County Council. Today is Tuesday, June 9, 2020, and although normally the second Tuesday of the month is a workshop day, today is a legislative day for the County Council.

The Frederick County Council is still conducting our meetings on-line during this time and this may continue for the foreseeable future due to concerns about the spread of the COVID virus.

Our meetings continue to be televised on Frederick County Government Channel 19, on Frederick County Government's website: [www.FrederickCountyMD.Gov/FCGTV](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.Gov/FCGTV), and as long as we continue to meet virtually, we will be using a software program which allows the public to watch and participate in our meetings. Please go to [www.frederickcountymd.gov/councilmeetings](http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/councilmeetings) in order to watch us on that format.

You may still send us comments via email at ([Councilmembers@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:Councilmembers@frederickcountymd.gov)), or by calling (301) 600-1135 and leaving a voicemail message. Or using our new format, you may call toll free 855-925-2801 and enter meeting code 8365 to record your comments. As always, all comments received will be reflected in the minutes.

As a reminder during these virtual meetings, I will periodically stop to allow the members to ask any questions they might have on the issue being discussed...calling the council members by name to make sure the public is aware of which member has the floor.

As a continued caution to our Council Members – Please be respectful of each other's time and wait to be recognized before you begin to speak. Remember the microphone issue and please limit your questions to one at a time. I will continue to circle back until all questions appear to be answered.

To begin our meeting, the President started with a roll call vote to determine a quorum, since not everyone was visible on the screen. Members present responded "here".

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CM Blue, Dacey, Donald, Fitzwater, Hagen, and McKay. The President conducted a roll call of the members. All seven (7) council members responded in the affirmative.

The President then lead a moment of silence to remember those who were working so hard to contain the deadly disease, all those working on the front lines, the doctors, nurses, hospital staff, the emergency responders, the families and friends of those who have been sickened and were fighting for their lives, and unfortunately those who have lost their battle and have died..

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

**Action on the Agenda**

*Council Member Michael Blue moved to approve the agenda as presented. Council Member Jerry Donald 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:**

- Inga James

**Business Items:**

**Charter Questions Discussion**

*Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to approve to public hearing recommendation #2, Council Member compensation regarding benefits, #3, Council President additional compensation, #4, Investigation by Council decreasing subpoena vote, #5, non-intrusive language changes, #6, Referencing to redistricting Commission and dates, #7, process for vacancy of the County Executive and #8, Changing borrowing limitations. 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		

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

**Charter Ballot Proposed Amendment Questions**

*Council Member Steve McKay moved to approve Charter Ballot Question Amendments 1 and 2, to move to Public Hearing 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		

*Council Member Phil Dacey moved to approve Charter Ballot Question Amendment 3, to move to Public Hearing as presented. 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		
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

**Workshop on Proposed Bill - Domestic Violence Coordinating Council**

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater and Brett Engler, Assistant State’s Attorney, present information to the Council on a Domestic Violence Coordinating Council.

**Workshop on Proposed Bill - Amending Chapter 1-21 of the County Code (Forest Resource Ordinance) to Increase Forest Conservation Efforts**

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Mike Wilkins, Director Development Review, Planning & Permitting Division presented information to the Council on Amending Chapter 1-21 of the County Code (Forest Resource Ordinance) to Increase Forest Conservation Efforts.

**Workshop on Proposed Bill – Amending Chapter 1-19 of the County Code (Zoning Ordinance) to Update and Clarify Transportation, Environmental Resource Protection, and Historic Preservation Criteria on Rezoning Requests**

Mike Wilkins, Director Development Review, Planning & Permitting Division presented information to the Council on Amending Chapter 1-19 of the County Code (Zoning Ordinance) to Update and Clarify Transportation, Environmental Resource Protection, and Historic Preservation Criteria on Rezoning Requests.

**Workshop on Proposed Bill - Revisions to the Frederick County Employees Retirement Plan: Addition of Pop Up Benefit Payment Option; Update to Actuarial Factors; Change in Consumer Price Index**

Lori Depies, Division Director, Finance Division and Diane Hoffman, HR Administrator, Human Resources Division, presented information to the Council on the Revisions to the Frederick County Employees Retirement Plan: Addition of Pop Up Benefit Payment Option; Update to Actuarial Factors; Change in Consumer Price Index.

Council took a break from 6:50 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Public Hearing:**

**Bill No. 20-06 General Obligation Debt Authorization**

A public hearing was held, as duly advertised, on Bill No. 20-06 General Obligation Debt Authorization

Public comment was heard from:

- Brandon Frazier
- Brent Simmons

*Council Member Kai Hagen moved to approve Closing the Public Hearing. Council Member Jessica Fitzwater seconded the motion that passed 7-0.*

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		

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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		

**Third Reading Calendar:**

**Bill No. 20-06 General Obligation Debt Authorization**

*Council Member Jerry Donald moved to approve Bill No. 20-06 General Obligation Debt Authorization as expedited legislation under Section 307 of the County Charter for the immediate protection of the public health, safety and welfare. Council Member Jessica Fitzwater seconded the motion that 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		

**Workshop on Proposed Bill – Revisions to Requirements for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)**

Gary Hessong, Deputy Director, Planning and Permitting Division, provided information to the Council on the Revisions to Requirements for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs).

**Public Comment was heard from:**

- Taylor Campbell
- Kimberly Donoghue-Rick
- Susannah Auderset
- Maili Knox
- Karina Roy
- Fannie Bilodeau
- Emma Ericksen

**FINAL**

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**Council Member Comments:**

Council Member comments were provided.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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M.C. Keegan-Ayer, President  
County Council