

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF FREDERICK COUNTY
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 29, 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; Catherine Keller, Assistant County Attorney; Sarah Ambrosio, Recording Secretary; and Nancy Luna, Executive Assistant, County Council.

Council Vice President Michael Blue called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. virtually via video conference.

Opening Statement from Council Vice President Michael Blue

Good Evening and welcome to the virtual meeting of the Frederick County Council. Today is Tuesday, September 29, 2020, and it is a legislative day for the County Council.

The Frederick County Council is continuing to conduct our meetings on-line during this time and it seems this may be the way we will be holding our meetings for the foreseeable future due to concerns about the spread of the COVID virus.

Our meetings are televised on Frederick County Government Channel 19, on Frederick County Government's website: www.FrederickCountyMD.Gov/FCGTV, and while we are meeting virtually, we will continue to use our software program which allows the public to watch and participate in our meetings. Please go to www.frederickcountymd.gov/councilmeetings in order to watch us on that format.

You may still send us comments via email at: (Councilmembers@frederickcountymd.gov), or by calling our office line (301) 600-1135 and leaving a voicemail message. Or using our virtual format, you may call toll free 855-925-2801 and enter meeting code 8365 to listen to our meetings live and to give public comment. I will be giving instructions for how to give public comment before each portion of our meeting when public comment will be received. 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 in a round robin type fashion, 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 come back around as often as necessary until all questions are heard.

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To begin our meeting, I will start with a roll call vote to determine a quorum. Just respond with “here”. Again, going in alphabetical order: CM Dacey, Donald, Fitzwater, Hagen, Keegan-Ayer and McKay. A quorum having been established, we will begin our meeting.

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

Action on the Agenda

Council Member Steve McKay moved to approve the agenda. 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 3– Keegan -Ayer	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Blue	X		

Public Comment was heard from:

- Brian Hanes

Business Items:

Final Presentation on 2021 Frederick County Legislative Package

Council Members discussed the Final Presentation on the Frederick County Legislative Package. Council Members agreed by show of hands, four items that will move forward for consideration by the County Executive for inclusion in the 2021 Frederick County Legislative Package.

1. To provide for limited special elections to fill vacancies on the Frederick County Board of Education. (Unanimous)
2. Position Statement in support of legislation regarding required advertising for the setting of the Constant Yield Tax rate. (6-1, CM Dacey opposed)
3. Position statement in support of the Maryland Strategic Energy Initiative Investment Fund – Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative – Use of Proceeds for Maryland Healthy Soils Program. (Unanimous)
4. Position statement in support of local zoning authority for large solar utility projects.

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(Unanimous)

2020 General Election Update

Stuart Harvey, Frederick County Election Director, provided an update to the Council on the 2020 General Election.

Affirm the Confirmation of the County Executive’s Appointment of the Division Director of Water and Sewer Utilities

Council Member Steve McKay moved to confirm the Appointment of Mark Schweitzer as Director of the Division of Water and Sewer Utilities as presented. 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 3– Keegan -Ayer	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Blue	X		

Affirm the Confirmation of the County Executive’s Appointment of the Division Director of Solid Waste and Recycling

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to confirm the Appointment of Phillip Harris as Director of the Division of Solid Waste and Recycling 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 3– Keegan -Ayer	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Blue	X		

Sugarloaf Area Plan

Kimberly Golden Brandt, Director, Livable Frederick Planning and Design Office and

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Tim Goodfellow, Environmental Planner, Livable Frederick Planning and Design Office, presented information to the Council on the Sugarloaf Are Plan.

First Reading Calendar

Use of the School Construction Fee Option (Section 1-20-62 of the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance) under Certain Limited, Specific Conditions, to Facilitate the completion of Substantially Built-out, but Currently Expired Residential Development Projects

Council Member Steve McKay presented information to the council on the Proposed Bill - Use of the School Construction Fee Option (Section 1-20-62 of the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance) under Certain Limited, Specific Conditions, to Facilitate the completion of Substantially Built-out, but Currently Expired Residential Development Projects

Third Reading Calendar

Amended Bill 20-15 Defining a “Farmers Market” in the Zoning Ordinance, as a specific type of Temporary Outdoor Activity in certain zones, and as a Customary Accessory Use on property zoned Institutional

Council Member Steve McKay moved to approve Amended Bill 20-15 Defining a “Farmers Market” in the Zoning Ordinance, as a specific type of Temporary Outdoor Activity in certain zones, and as a Customary Accessory Use on property zoned Institutional 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 3– Keegan -Ayer	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Blue	X		

Public Comment was heard from:

- None

Council Member Comments:

Council Member comments were provided.

FINAL

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Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

M.C. Keegan-Ayer, President
County Council