

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF FREDERICK COUNTY
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, December 21, 2021**

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, County Council Chief of Staff; Catherine Keller, Assistant County Attorney; Sarah Ambrosio, Recording Secretary; and Nancy Luna, Executive Assistant, County Council.

Council President M.C. Keegan-Ayer called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. virtually.

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

Council President M.C. Keegan-Ayer provided an opening statement at the start of the meeting. Included in that statement was a welcoming to the Legislative meeting for Tuesday, December 21, 2021 and information on how to watch and participate in the meeting. President Keegan-Ayer called roll and a quorum was established for the meeting.

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

Council President Keegan-Ayer read a prepared statement in response to the concerns expressed by some residents of Frederick County to the opinion issued on November 29, 2021, by the Open Meetings Compliance Board. Council President Keegan-Ayer asked all members of the Council to join in signing this statement.

Action on the Agenda

Council Member Michael Blue moved to approve the agenda 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		

Public Comment was heard from:

- None

Business Items:

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Budget Adjustments

- J-22-142 – Frederick County Public Libraries
- J-22-143 – Sheriff’s Office
- J-22-148 – Frederick County Developmental Center, Health Services Division
- Board of Education Current Expense Fund Budget Amendment #1-22

Council Member Steve McKay moved to approve Budget Adjustment J-22-142, J-22-143, J-22-148, and Board of Education Current Expense Fund Budget Amendment #1-22 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 December 7, December 14, and Closed Session Minutes from December 7, 2021.

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to approve the minutes from December 7, December 14 and Closed Session Minutes from December 7, 2021, 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		

Confirmation of the County Executive’s Appointments to the Frederick County Ethics Commission

Mary Ellen Rhoderick, Chair, Ethics Commission Nominating Committee., briefed the Council on the Confirmation of the County Executive’s Appointments to the Frederick County Ethics Commission.

Council Member Steve McKay moved to confirm the appointments of Stephen Larsen

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and Ysela Bravo, to the Frederick County Ethics Commission to terms as presented by Ms. Rhoderick. 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		

Confirmation of the County Executive’s Appointment to the Frederick County Local Management Board and Confirmation of Immigrant Affairs Commission Members’ Terms

Joyce Grossnickle, Administrative Officer, briefed the Council on the Confirmation of the County Executive’s Appointment to the Frederick County Local Management Board and Confirmation of Immigrant Affairs Commission Members’ Terms.

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to confirm the appointment of Dr. Anita Mwalui to the Local Management Board to terms as presented by staff. 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		

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to confirm the terms of the appointments of Anastasia Pollotas, Miles Ward, Larry Steinly, Jose Luis Moreno, and Danielle Haskin, to the Immigrant Affairs Commission to terms as presented by staff. Council Member Kai Hagen 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		

Establish a New Climate and Energy Function within the Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources and Fund Priorities and Budget Journal and Budget Ordinance Amendment to Establish New Capital Projects for Climate and Energy within the Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources

Rick Harcum, Chief Administrative Officer, presented information to the Council on Establish a New Climate and Energy Function within the Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources and Fund Priorities and Budget Journal and Budget Ordinance Amendment to Establish New Capital Projects for Climate and Energy within the Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources. A Public Hearing will be held on January 11, 2022 and brought back for a decision on January 18, 2022.

Redistricting Ordinance

Council Member Steve McKay moved to move District 08-001 and 19-001 from District 2 to District 5 and approve the accompanying redistricting ordinance. 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		

Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

Christopher Lehman, Partner, SB & Company LLC, Bill Seymour, Partner, Public Sector Practice Leader, SB & Company LLC, provided information to the Council on the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

Discussion on Allowing the Public to Attend County Council Sessions

The Council held a discussion on allowing the Public to Attend County Council Sessions. Council Members McKay, Hagen and Dacey will meet and compile a draft of a Council policy for future discussion by the Council.

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Third Reading Calendar

Bill 21-12 – Amend and Update Chapter 1-22 Article I, Development Impact Fee Procedures and Requirements, and Article II, Public School Development Impact Fee, of the Frederick County Code

Council Member Jerry Donald moved to approve Bill 21-12– Amend and Update Chapter 1-22 Article I, Development Impact Fee Procedures and Requirements, and Article II, Public School Development Impact Fee, of the Frederick County Code as presented. Council Member Jessica Fitzwater seconded the motion that

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:

- Kavonte Duckett
- Susan Hansen

Council Member Comments:

Council Member comments were provided.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

M.C. Keegan-Ayer, President
County Council