

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF FREDERICK COUNTY
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 19, 2022**

Council Members M.C. Keegan-Ayer, President; Michael Blue, Vice-President, Jerry Donald, Jessica Fitzwater, Kai Hagen, 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.

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, April 19, 2022 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.

Action on the Agenda

Council Member Michael Blue moved to approve the agenda 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 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-22-253 – Administrative Services Section, Fire & Rescue Services Division
- J-22-258 – Engineering & Construction Management, Public Works Division
- Board of Education School Construction Fund Budget Amendment No. 22-09 and J- 22-262 – Accounting, Finance Division

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- Board of Education School Construction Fund Budget Amendment No. 22-10 and J-22-263 – Accounting, Finance Division
- J-22-265 – Operations/Area Agency on Aging, Senior Services Division
- J-22-276 – Office of Economic Development

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to approve Budget Adjustments J-22-253, J-22-258, Board of Education School Construction Fund Budget Amendment No. 22-09 and J- 22-262, Board of Education School Construction Fund Budget Amendment No. 22-10 and J-22-263, J-22-265 and J-22-276 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 April 5, 2022.

Council Member Steve McKay moved to approve the minutes from April 5, 2022, 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 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Motion to Take Constant Yield Tax Rate to Public Hearing

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to approve the Motion to Take Constant Yield Tax Rate to Public Hearing as presented by staff. Council Member Kai Hagen seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present

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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 Hearing on Surplus Declaration Resolution of Dearbought Parcel

Rick Harcum, Chief Administrative Officer, County Executive’s Office, provided information to the Council on the Surplus Declaration Resolution of Dearbought Parcel.

Public Comment was heard from:

- Hugh Gordon

With no additional speakers President Keegan-Ayer closed public comment.

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to approve the surplus declaration of the Dearbought parcel located at the intersection of Sebastian Boulevard and Liberty Road (MD 26) for the purpose of developing affordable senior housing as presented by staff. Council Member Michael Blue 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		

Third Reading Calendar

At 5:47 p.m. Council President M.C. Keegan-Ayer passed the gavel to Council Vice President Michael Blue.

Bill No. 22-07 – Revisions to the Frederick County Employees Retirement Plan (Ad Hoc Cost of Living Adjustment) – Ad Hoc Cost of Living Adjustment

Council President M.C. Keegan-Ayer moved to approve Bill No. 22-07 – Revisions to the Frederick County Employees Retirement Plan (Ad Hoc Cost of Living Adjustment) –

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Ad Hoc Cost of Living Adjustment. 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 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Blue	X		

Bill No. 22-08 – Revisions to the Frederick County Uniformed Employees Retirement Plan (Ad Hoc Cost of Living Adjustment) – Ad Hoc Cost of Living Adjustment

Council President M.C. Keegan-Ayer moved to approve Bill No. 22-08 – Revisions to the Frederick County Uniformed Employees Retirement Plan (Ad Hoc Cost of Living Adjustment) – Ad Hoc Cost of Living Adjustment. 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 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Blue	X		

At 5:50 p.m. Council Vice President Michael Blue passed the gavel back to Council President M.C. Keegan-Ayer.

The Council took a break from 5:50 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Public Hearing:

The Council reconvened at 6:00 pm and Council President Keegan-Ayer re-established a quorum with all members present.

FY23 Board of Education and Frederick County Government Budget Public Hearing

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Rick Harcum, Chief Administrative Officer, County Executive's Office, Kelly Weaver, Director, Budget Office and Jennifer Peterson, Assistant Budget Director, Budget Office provided information to the Council on the FY23 Board of Education and Frederick County Government Budget Public Hearing.

Public Comment was heard from:

- Dr. Thomas Powell
- Brad Young
- Thea Ruff
- Bruce DeShong
- Melissa Dirks
- Glenda Stolz
- Betty Hicks
- Rae Gallagher
- Sebastian Brown
- Richard Ludwick

With no additional speakers President Keegan-Ayer closed public comment.

The Council took a break from 6:45 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The Council reconvened at 7:00 pm and Council President Keegan-Ayer re-established a quorum with all members present.

Public Hearing:

To Consider Amended Bill No. 22-09 – Establish a Police Accountability Board

Council President M.C. Keegan-Ayer presented information on Amended Bill No. 22-09 - Establish a Police Accountability Board.

Public Comment was heard from:

- Mary Ann Ford
- Mike Morse
- Sea Raven
- Nicholas Augustine
- Jan Levine
- Willie Mahone
- John Funderburk
- Mary Astudillo

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- Maria Dennis
- Kimberly Scott

With no additional speakers President Keegan-Ayer closed public comment.

Public Comment was heard from:

- Margarita Gallegos
- Giovanni Navarro
- Sally Livingstone
- Yewande Olendonde
- Chaz Packan
- Jo Hart
- Richard Kaplowitz

Council Member Comments:

Council Member comments were provided.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

M.C. Keegan-Ayer, President
County Council