

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF FREDERICK COUNTY
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 7, 2023**

Council Members Mason Carter, Jerry Donald, Kavonté Duckett, M.C. Keegan-Ayer, Renee Knapp, Steve McKay, and Brad Young were present for the meeting.

Also present were Ragen Cherney, County Council Chief of Staff; Catherine Keller, Assistant County Attorney; Nancy Luna, Executive Assistant, County Council; and Abby Boroughs, Administrative Assistant, County Council.

Council President Brad Young called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Opening Statement from Council President Brad Young

Council President Brad Young provided an opening statement at the start of the meeting. Included in that statement was a welcoming to the Legislative Day Meeting for Tuesday, February 7, 2023, and information on how to watch and participate in the meeting.

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

President Young then established a quorum.

Action on the Agenda

Council Member M.C. Keegan-Ayer moved to approve the agenda for 2/7/2023, with the addition of Council Member comments in between public comments and upcoming meetings. 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 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

Public Comment

Public Comment was heard from:

- None.

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Public Comment.

Approval of Minutes

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Council Member M.C. Keegan-Ayer moved to approve the minutes for 1/10, 1/17, 1/24, and 1/31, 2023 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 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

Budget Adjustments

Council Member M.C. Keegan-Ayer moved to approve the following budget adjustments:

- J-23-190 - Family Partnership, Citizens Services Division
- J-23-199 - Human Resources Division
- J-23-200 - Transit Services Division

Council Member Jerry Donald seconded the motion that passed 6-0-1, with Council Member Steve McKay abstaining.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay			X
District 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

Public Hearing - Proposed Listing on County Register of Historic Places - Steiner Wolfe Smith Farm (CR# 22-02)

Beau Lockard, Historic Preservation Principal Planner I, Livable Frederick Planning & Design Office, Planning & Permitting Division briefed the Council on the Proposed Listing on the County Register of Historic Places – Steiner Wolfe Smith Farm (CR# 22-02).

Public Comment was heard from:

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- None.

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Public Comment.

Council Member M.C. Keegan-Ayer moved to approve the listing of the Steiner Wolfe Smith Farm (CR# 22-02) to the County's Register of Historic Places based on the following criteria: the property has significant character, interest, or value, as part of development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the county, state, or nation; the property exemplifies cultural, economic, social, political, or historic heritage of the County's communities; the property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or agriculture. Council Member Steve McKay seconded the motion that passes 6-1, with Council Member Jerry Donald opposed.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald		X	
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

Second Renewal Option for the Financial Statement External Audit Contract

Melanie Thom, Director, Department of Accounting, Finance Division briefed the Council on the Second Renewal Option for the Financial Statement External Audit Contract.

Council Member M.C. Keegan-Ayer moved to approve the Second Renewal Option for the County's contract with SB & Company LLC for the External Audit Contract. 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 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

First Reading Calendar:

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a) Amend the Tax Credit for the Surviving Spouse of a Disabled Veteran

Council Member Steve McKay introduced the Bill titled Amend the Tax Credit for the Surviving Spouse of a disabled Veteran. The Bill will expand the duration of the tax credit for the surviving spouse of a disabled veteran.

b) Amend Senior Citizens Local Supplement to Homeowners Property Tax Credit

Council Member Steve McKay introduced the Bill titled Amend Senior Citizens Local Supplement to Homeowners Property Tax Credit. The Bill will expand the income eligibility for senior citizens, revise the property tax credit to 30% and 50% for the two tiers of eligible income, and increase the home value limitation to \$500,000 for the senior citizens' supplement to homeowners property tax credit.

c) Amend Elderly Individuals Uniformed Service Members Property Tax Credit

Council Member Steve McKay introduced the Bill titled Amend Elderly Individuals Uniformed Service Members Property Tax Credit. The Bill will expand the income eligibility for elderly individuals, increase the property tax credit to 30%, and remove the 5-year limitation for the elderly individuals and uniformed service members property tax credit.

d) Amendments to Ch. 1-14 of the Frederick County Code - Plumbing Ordinance

Council Member M.C. Keegan-Ayer introduced the Bill titled Amending Ch.1-14 of the Frederick County Code – Plumbing Ordinance. The Bill will update Chapter 1-14 of the Frederick County Code (Plumbing) to add provisions prohibiting the use of certain materials in the construction of fuel gas piping systems in certain buildings; to bring the Frederick County Plumbing Code into compliance with the 2018 International Plumbing Code; and to incorporate by reference the Cross Connection Regulations, which are part of the Frederick County Water and Sewer Regulations.

Third Reading Calendar:

- a) Bill No. 23-01 Amendments to the Frederick County Code of Ordinances, Ch. 1-23 – Historic Preservation – M.C. Keegan-Ayer

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Council Member M.C. Keegan-Ayer moved Bill 23-01 Amending Ch. 1-23 of the Frederick County Code – Historic Preservation to exempt certain areas of properties and historic districts from the requirement to obtain a certificate of appropriateness. Council Member Donald seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 3 – Keegan-Ayer	X		
District 4– Duckett	X		
District 5 – Carter	X		
At Large – Knapp	X		
Presiding Officer – Young	X		

Public Comment

Public Comment was heard from:

- None.

With no further comments, Council President Brad Young closed Public Comment.

Council Member Comments


Council Member comments were provided.

Upcoming Meetings

- Tuesday, February 14, 2023 – No Council Meeting
- Tuesday, February 21, 2023 – Legislative Day

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.


 Brad W. Young, President
 County Council

