

September 21, 2021

A meeting of the County Commissioners of Kent County was called to order at 6:02 p.m. with the following present: P. Thomas Mason, President, Ronald H. Fithian, and Robert N. Jacob, Jr. The meeting convened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Mason asked the audience to remain standing for the family of Gabby Petito and their loss, and for other persons who disappear and are never found.

Shelley L. Heller, County Administrator was also in attendance.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Commissioner Mason read an adoption notice into record. Code Home Rule 9-2021 Agriculture Advisory Commission, AN ACT to amend Chapter 172, Agriculture Advisory Commission, of the Code of Public Laws of Kent County, Maryland, by amending the text to change the total number of members from seven to no less than seven and no more than nine. This legislation was adopted on September 7, 2021, with amendments; and the provisions of this Act shall take effect on October 22, 2021.

CONSENT ITEMS

On motion by Commissioner Fithian and seconded by Commissioner Jacob, the Commissioners unanimously approved the following items:

1. Regular Session Minutes, September 14, 2021
2. Liquor Minutes, September 14, 2021
3. Closed Session Minutes, September 14, 2021
4. Tolchester Community Center, Raffle Only, September 25, 2021

TOWN OF MILLINGTON

Claude J. Morales, Jr., Mayor, and Council Members Kevin Hemstock, Wayne Starkey, and Michelle Holland, Town of Millington; were accompanied by Frank Hodgetts, President/CEO, Home Partnership, Inc.; and Chris Benzing, Executive Director, Maryland Rural Development Corporation to discuss a proposed Senior Housing Project in Millington. Mr. Hodgetts shared a presentation and described the proposal. Mr. Hodgetts stated the Project would consist of forty (40) units along with a community center. The proposal depicts twenty (20) units on an adjacent piece of property, the Town of Millington owns, with the intent the remaining twenty (20) units are positioned on a portion of land from the former Millington Elementary School. The estimated timeframe to complete the planned project is three years. Mr. Hodgetts relayed that State funding has been applied for, however, the application was rejected; to qualify for tax credits more amenities i.e., community center, transportation must be included. Mr. Morales stated the Town has set aside water and sewer allocations to support the Project. Mr. Hodgetts requested a letter of intent to support the plan, and to confirm use of the school property for part of the housing project. The Commissioners supported the idea of the project

and requested a thorough plat survey. Once the requested information is received, a letter of intent can be considered.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDS

Rosemary Ramsey Granillo, Director, Kent County Local Management Board (KCLMB) presented a request to allocate ARPA funds for the Feed the Elderly Initiative. Minary's Dream Alliance (MDA) applied to deliver emergency food to the elderly and homebound in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The contract submitted is for twelve (12) months, from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$112,800.00. Staff requests approval to move forward with allocating \$112,800.00 for this Initiative. During a work session on August 31, 2021, Commissioner Fithian inquired on the total amount of Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) spent on the Feed the Elderly Initiative; to date \$295,743.00 has been disbursed. Discussion took place. On motion by Commissioner Fithian and seconded by Commissioner Jacob, the Commissioners unanimously approved the Minary's Dream Alliance Feed the Elderly Initiative contract.

Ms. Ramsey Granillo announced an enclosed trailer locates at the Frank Rhodes Furniture Makers building on Morgnec Road/Rt. 291 accepts non-perishable food items after normal business hours. This option has increased the accessibility of donations which will allow more items to be distributed to local food pantries.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Shelley L. Heller, County Administrator introduced Darius Johnson, Executive Director, Kent Attainable Housing, Inc. (KAH). Mr. Johnson requested the County waive permit fees for an affordable housing project. A memorandum dated September 15, 2021 detailed the scope of the request. Discussion took place. On motion by Commissioner Fithian and seconded by Commissioner Jacob, the Commissioners unanimously approved to waive fees associated with permitting of the Kent Attainable Housing's project at 24909 Lambs Meadow Road to include the building permit fee, the stormwater review fee, the standard sediment control review fee, the driveway permit fee, and the water and sewer hook-up fee, not to exceed \$1,038.00.

Ms. Heller reviewed a correspondence dated September 1, 2021, from Charles L. Miller, Chairman, Kent Soil and Water Conservation District (KSWCD), requesting the County Engineer review all urban small pond permits effective January 1, 2022. The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) will no longer perform this task leaving the KSWCD to hire an engineer. Mike Moulds, Director, Public Works conveyed his concerns in writing and suggested KSWCD consider contracting with a local consulting firm for services on an as needed basis. The County is currently accepting applications for a County Engineer position in anticipation of the retirement of the current employee. Discussion took place. The Commissioners stated the County is unable to accommodate the request at this time, once a new County Engineer is hired the request could be revisited.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

The Maryland Department of Transportation overview of the Consolidated Transportation Programs (CTP) tour is scheduled for September 28, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Correspondences dated September 15, 2021, were mailed to Senator Hershey, the District 36 Delegation, and the County's five municipalities encouraging involvement and dialogue concerning transportation needs. Commissioner Fithian suggested informing the representatives of the CTP tour about Galena's Walkable Sidewalks and Footpaths project.

LETTER FOR SIGNATURE

At the Commissioners' meeting on September 14, 2021, the Board expressed interest in supporting Galena's "Walkable Galena and Beyond" project. The Commissioners signed a support letter addressed to John T. Carroll, Mayor and Council, Town of Galena.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Jacob discussed an erosion problem at the Still Pond Coast Guard Station. Commissioner Jacob recommended writing a letter to U.S. Senator Ben Cardin requesting assistance with the issue.

The procedures for public comment were in effect. No comments were received from citizens.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Commissioners received a correspondence dated September 9, 2021, from Susie Chase, Vice President, Advancement and Alumni Relations, Washington College, thanking the Commissioners for their letter of support that allowed grant funding to be obtained for The Chesapeake Heartland Project.

CONTINGENCY FUND

The FY2022 Contingency Fund balance as of September 7, 2021, is \$165,869.00 and the FY2022 use of fund balance total is \$69,932.00.

At 7:33 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Jacob, seconded by Commissioner Fithian, and the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting. The Board is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sallie Watson
Deputy Clerk II

Approved:

P. Thomas Mason, President
The County Commissioners
of Kent County, Maryland

September 21, 2021

The Board of License Commissioners met today with the following present: P. Thomas Mason, presiding, Ronald H. Fithian, and Robert N. Jacob, Jr.

Shelley L. Heller, County Administrator was also in attendance.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Commissioner Fithian read a public hearing notice into record. Application has been made by members: Shweta Dutta Sethi and Saurabh Sethi representing Sam's Rock Hall Liquors, LLC trading as Rock Hall Liquors for a Class A, Beer, Wine, and Liquor License with Beer, Wine, and Liquor Tasting (BWLTT) on the premises known as, Rock Hall Liquors, 21318 Rock Hall Avenue, Rock Hall, MD 21661. This shall authorize the holder thereof to sell Beer, Wine, and Liquor at retail, at the place therein described, for off-premises consumption. A hearing on said application will be held by the undersigned in the County Commissioners' Hearing Room, R. Clayton Mitchell, Jr. Government Center, 400 High Street, Chestertown, MD on October 5, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at which time any exceptions to the application will be heard.

CONSENT ITEM

On motion by Commissioner Fithian and seconded by Commissioner Jacob, the Commissioners unanimously approved Consent Item #2 - Liquor Minutes, September 14, 2021.

SPECIAL CLASS C LICENSE

Tolchester Community Association, Inc. has applied for a Beer and Wine Special Class C per diem license for an event to be held on September 25, 2021, at the Tolchester Community Center. On motion by Commissioner Fithian and seconded by Commissioner Jacob, the Commissioners unanimously approved the application as presented.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

At their September 14th meeting, the Commissioners approved a Beer only Special Class C per diem license for Betterton Volunteer Fire Company (BVFD) for an event on September 18th. On September 17th, a member of BVFD discovered the application should have been made for a Beer and Wine license, not a Beer only license. Mark Dixon, Member, BVFD, contacted Shelley L. Heller, County Administrator to inquire if the permit could be changed. Ms. Heller contacted the Board, and the Board approved the change. The license was modified on September 18th to reflect the change from a Beer only license to a Beer and Wine license.

There being no further business to claim their attention, the Board adjourned and agreed to meet again on Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.

THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS
OF KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Liquor Minutes
September 21, 2021
Page 2 of 2

Sallie Watson
Deputy Clerk II

Approved:

P. Thomas Mason, President
The County Commissioners
of Kent County, Maryland