

BALTIMORE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES
LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2025, LEGISLATIVE DAY NO. 21
December 15, 2025 6:00 P.M.

A. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ertel at 6:16 P.M. The Chairman asked the audience to rise for a moment of silent meditation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Captains of the Perry Hall High School Varsity Girls Soccer Team. There were approximately 75 persons in attendance. The following Councilmembers were present:

PAT YOUNG	FIRST DISTRICT
IZZY PATOKA	SECOND DISTRICT
WADE KACH	THIRD DISTRICT
JULIAN E. JONES	FOURTH DISTRICT
DAVID MARKS	FIFTH DISTRICT
MICHAEL ERTEL	SIXTH DISTRICT
TODD CRANDELL	SEVENTH DISTRICT

*Attended via WebEx video teleconference.

Prior to the Pledge of Allegiance, the Council held a ceremony for the entire Perry Hall High School Varsity Girls Soccer Team and coaches to celebrate the team's Maryland Class 4A Girls State Soccer Title last month. Councilman Marks presented the team with a Special Council Resolution in recognition of the team's victory over Bethesda-Chevy Chase in the championship game.

B. APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

Upon motion by Councilman Patoka seconded by Councilman Young, the reading of the Journal Entries for the meeting of December 1, 2025 was waived and accepted by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Young, Patoka, Kach, Jones, Marks, Ertel, Crandell

Nay – None

C. ENROLLMENT OF BILLS

The Chairman stated that the following Bills were passed by the County Council and signed by the County Executive. He certified and delivered to the Secretary, Bills 79-25, 80-25 and 81-25.

D. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill 94-25 entitled An Act for the purpose of amending the 2025-2026 Current Expense Budget, by appropriating to the Gifts and Grants Special Revenue Fund monies derived from state funds and made available to the County through the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Center.

Bill 95-25 entitled An Act for the purpose of requiring that the planting of trees to replace trees which are removed for any development located in a certain Commercial Revitalization District are subject to certain County and State requirements; and generally relating to the D.T. Overlay District.

Bill 96-25 entitled An Act for the purpose of permitting certain nonconforming dwelling units uses in a building based upon the continuous use of the dwelling units for a certain period of time; and generally relating to dwelling units and nonconforming uses.

Bill 97-25 entitled An Act for the purpose of establishing an Office of Immigrant Affairs; defining certain terms; establishing the purpose and duties of the Office; establishing a Chief of Immigrant Affairs who shall lead the Office; establishing certain annual reporting requirements for the Office; requiring a report be submitted to the County Executive and Council regarding certain consolidation of budgets and positions; and generally relating to the Office of Immigrant Affairs.

Bill 98-25 entitled An Act for the purpose of providing that County employees, departments, and agents shall take, or refrain from taking, specified actions with respect to the immigration status of specified individuals; prohibiting certain discrimination based on immigration status; requiring that certain information related to citizenship, nationality, or immigration status be kept confidential; providing a procedure whenever specified provisions may be preempted by other law; requiring specified officials to take actions under certain circumstances; specifying which actions may and may not be taken by certain County departments, officers, and officials during participation on certain task forces; requiring County departments to adopt specified policies and make specified reports; governing the expenditure of certain County resources; and generally relating to human rights in Baltimore County.

G. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

2. Appointment – Baltimore Co. Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board – Mark Travers

At the direction of the Chairman, the Secretary read this correspondence from the County Executive appointing Mark Travers to the Baltimore County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board to the remainder of a five-year term ending June 30, 2029. There being no discussion, upon motion by Councilman Kach seconded by Councilman Jones, this appointment was unanimously confirmed.

3. Reappointment – Baltimore Co. Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board – Brenda Strohmer

At the direction of the Chairman, the Secretary read this correspondence from the County Executive appointing Brenda Strohmer to the Baltimore County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board for a remainder of a five-year term ending June 30, 2029. There being no discussion, upon motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Kach, this reappointment was unanimously confirmed.

4. Reappointment – Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission – Katie Rouse

At the direction of the Chairman, the Secretary read this correspondence from the County Executive reappointing Katie Rouse to the Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission. There being no discussion, upon motion by Councilman Ertel, seconded by Councilman Jones, this Reappointment was unanimously confirmed.

5. Reappointment – Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission – Selisa Jefferson

At the direction of the Chairman, the Secretary read this correspondence from the County Executive reappointing Selisa Jefferson to the Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission. There being no discussion, upon motion by Councilman Ertel, seconded by Councilman Jones, this Reappointment was unanimously confirmed.

6. Reappointment – Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission – Dr. Tecoya Farrakhan

At the direction of the Chairman, the Secretary read this correspondence from the County Executive reappointing Dr. Tecoya Farrakhan to the Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission. There being no discussion, upon motion by Councilman Kach, seconded by Councilman Ertel, this Reappointment was unanimously confirmed.

7. Reappointment – Planning Board – Derick Johnson

At the direction of the Chairman, the Secretary read this correspondence from the County Executive reappointing Derrick Johnson to the Baltimore County Planning Board. There being no discussion, upon motion by Councilman Marks, seconded by Councilman Jones, this Reappointment was unanimously confirmed.

E. CALL OF BILLS FOR FINAL READING AND VOTE

Bill 82-25, CEB – 988 Crisis Hotline Services, was called. Councilman Jones moved to amend this Bill with the following amendment:

1. On page 2, in line 8, after “988” insert “Trust Fund”; and strike “\$1,641,445” and substitute “\$1,485,889”.

Councilman Kach seconded the motion and this amendment passed by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Young, Patoka, Kach, Jones, Marks, Ertel, Crandell
Nay – None

Thereafter, upon motion by Councilman Kach, seconded by Councilman Ertel, Bill 82-25, as amended, passed by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Young, Patoka, Kach, Jones, Marks, Ertel, Crandell
Nay – None

Bill 83-25, CEB – Crisis Services Development/Expansion Program, was called. Councilman Jones moved to amend this Bill with the following amendment:

1. On page 2, in line 8, strike “\$94,912” and substitute “\$34,794”.

Councilman Kach seconded the motion and this amendment passed by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Young, Patoka, Kach, Jones, Marks, Ertel, Crandell
Nay – None

Thereafter, upon motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Kach, Bill 83-25, as amended, passed by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Young, Patoka, Kach, Jones, Marks, Ertel, Crandell
Nay – None

Bill 84-25, CEB – Long-Term & Dementia Care Program, was called. There being no discussion, upon motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Kach, this Bill passed by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Young, Patoka, Kach, Jones, Marks, Ertel, Crandell
Nay – None

Bill 85-25, CEB – HSGP, was called. Councilman Jones moved to amend this Bill with the following amendment:

1. On page 2, in line 7, strike “\$12,979” and substitute “\$12,499”.

Councilman Kach seconded the motion and this amendment passed by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Young, Patoka, Kach, Jones, Marks, Ertel, Crandell
Nay – None

Thereafter, upon motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Kach, Bill 85-25, as amended, passed by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Young, Patoka, Kach, Jones, Marks, Ertel, Crandell
Nay – None

Bill 86-25, CEB – Assistance to Firefighters, was called. There being no discussion, upon motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Ertel, this Bill passed by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Young, Patoka, Kach, Jones, Marks, Ertel, Crandell
Nay – None

Bill 87-25, This Bill was withdrawn prior to the meeting.

Bill 88-25, Property Tax Credits for Port Property, was called. Councilmembers Crandell, Young, Jones and Marks commented. Councilman Crandell moved to amend this Bill with the following amendments:

1. On page 4, after line 20, insert the following.

“(6) “PROPERTY TAX PORTION” MEANS, FOR EACH TAX YEAR OF THE TAX CREDIT AUTHORIZED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE AMOUNT OF COUNTY REAL PROPERTY TAX LEGALLY IMPOSED ON THE PROPERTY UNDER GENERAL LAW FOR THAT YEAR, BEFORE APPLICATION OF THE TAX CREDIT, NOT TO EXCEED THE REQUIRED PAYMENT AMOUNT.

(7) (I) “SUPPLEMENTAL PORT DEVELOPMENT PAYMENT” OR “SPDP” MEANS, FOR EACH TAX YEAR OF THE TAX CREDIT AUTHORIZED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE AMOUNT BY WHICH THE REQUIRED PAYMENT AMOUNT EXCEEDS THE PROPERTY TAX PORTION.

(II) IF THE PROPERTY TAX PORTION EQUALS THE REQUIRED PAYMENT AMOUNT, THE SPDP IS ZERO.

(III) THE SPDP IS NOT A TAX, FEE, CHARGE, OR ASSESSMENT OF ANY KIND, MAY NOT BE CREDITED AGAINST ANY TAX LIABILITY, AND IS A MANDATORY PAYMENT MADE SOLELY AS A CONDITION OF RECEIVING THE TAX CREDIT AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SECTION.”

2. On page 5, in line 16, strike “PAYMENT OF COUNTY PROPERTY TAX REQUIRED BY SUBPARAGRAPH (I)” and substitute “PAYMENTS REQUIRED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPHS (I) AND (II)”; in line 22, strike “IMMEDIATELY SUBSEQUENT”; in the same line, after “YEAR” insert “IN WHICH THE ELIGIBLE PORT PROPERTY WAS DETERMINED TO BE OPERATIONAL”.
3. On page 6, in line 21, after “OPERATIONAL,” insert “OPERATIONAL, BUT NOT LATER THAN THE TENTH YEAR FOLLOWING THE TAX YEAR IN WHICH CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES FOR CONTAINER OPERATIONS AT THE ELIGIBLE PORT PROPERTY COMMENCED,”.
4. On page 7, in line 5, after “EQUAL TO” insert “THE PROPERTY TAX PORTION OF”; in the same line, strike “AND”; after line 5, insert “(II) PAY THE SUPPLEMENTAL PORT DEVELOPMENT PAYMENT (SPDP), IF APPLICABLE, IN AN AMOUNT THAT, TOGETHER WITH THE PROPERTY TAX PORTION, EQUALS THE REQUIRED PAYMENT AMOUNT; AND”; in line 6, strike “(II)” and substitute “(III)”; after line 8, insert “(8) THE SPDP SHALL BE PAID TO THE COUNTY IN THE MANNER AND ON THE SCHEDULE SPECIFIED IN THE WRITTEN AGREEMENT REQUIRED BY PARAGRAPH (5) OF THIS SUBSECTION.”; in line 9, strike “(8)” and substitute “(9)”.

Councilman Ertel seconded the motion and these amendments passed by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Young, Patoka, Kach, Jones, Marks, Ertel, Crandell
 Nay – None

Councilman Young moved to amend this Bill with the following amendments:

1. On page 7, after line 21, insert the following.
 - “(D) (1) WITHIN 6 MONTHS OF THE APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION UNDER PARAGRAPHS (3) OR (4) OF SUBSECTION (B), THE APPLICANT AND THE COUNTY SHALL BEGIN A NEGOTIATION IN GOOD FAITH TO ENTER INTO A REPORTING AGREEMENT.
 - (2) A REPORTING AGREEMENT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE:
 - (I) AT LEAST ONE DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING UPDATE TO BE PROVIDED TO THE COUNTY AT LEAST ONE YEAR PRIOR TO THE TAX YEAR THE APPLICANT ANTICIPATES THE PORT TO BE OPERATIONAL; AND

(II) A REPORT, UPDATED AT REGULAR INTERVALS FOLLOWING COMMENCEMENT OF THE TAX CREDIT NOT TO EXCEED 10 YEARS, ON THE VALUATION OF ALL PROPERTY FOR WHICH A CREDIT IS GRANTED UNDER THIS SECTION AND THE APPLICANT'S TAX SAVINGS UNDER THIS SECTION.

(E) BASED UPON THE REPORTS GIVEN TO THE COUNTY BY THE APPLICANT UNDER SUBSECTION (D), THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE SHALL NOTIFY THE COUNTY COUNCIL IF THE VALUE OF THE TAX CREDITS GRANTED UNDER THIS SECTION EXCEEDS 95% OF THE TAXES THAT WOULD HAVE OTHERWISE BEEN DUE ABSENT THE CREDIT.”

Councilman Kach seconded the motion and these amendments passed by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Young, Patoka, Kach, Jones, Marks, Ertel, Crandell
Nay – None

Thereafter, upon motion by Councilman Crandell, seconded by Councilman Jones, Bill 85-25, as amended, passed by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Young, Patoka, Kach, Jones, Marks, Ertel, Crandell
Nay – None

Bill 89-25, Bond Ordinance, was called. Kevin Reed testified. Councilman Jones moved to amend this Bill with the following amendments:

1. On page 55, under Description for Countywide Improvements, after “218”, strike “001” and substitute “100”.
2. On page 83, in CHART I, in Section 1. Baltimore County Public Works Bonds (2025), under column OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS FOR PROJECTS, after “other” strike “\$2,5672,072” and substitute “\$2,575,072”.
3. On page 86, in Section 8. Baltimore County Parks, Preservation and Greenways Bonds (2025), under column TOTAL COST OF PROJECTS, strike “\$219,041,976” and substitute “\$423,788,257”; under column OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS FOR PROJECTS, after “Other Bonds”, strike “\$100,066,641” and substitute “\$101,511,143”; after “Fed./State”, strike “\$31,239,511” and substitute “\$167, 855,413”; after “Gen. Funds” strike “\$22,643,159” and substitute “\$123,455,379”; and after “Other” strike “\$44,092,665” and substitute “\$22,966,322”.

Councilman Kach seconded the motion and these amendments passed by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Young, Patoka, Kach, Jones, Marks, Ertel, Crandell
Nay – None

Thereafter, upon motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Kach, Bill 89-25, as amended, passed by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Young, Patoka, Kach, Jones, Marks, Ertel, Crandell
Nay – None

Bill 90-25, Zoning Regulations – Honeygo Area – Sidewalks, was called. Councilman Marks commented. There being no further discussion, upon motion by Councilman Marks, seconded by Councilman Crandell, this Bill passed by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Young, Patoka, Kach, Jones, Marks, Ertel, Crandell

F. APPROVAL OF FISCAL MATTERS

The Chairman stated that the Council would now consider Fiscal Matters. Extensive testimony on each item was taken at the Council’s work session on November 25, 2025. The witnesses who testified at the work session were available to restate their testimony if needed. If a Councilmember had any questions regarding a particular Fiscal Matter, that item would be discussed as a separate matter. Chairman Ertel then called upon the Secretary to read the cover letters for Fiscal Matters 1 and 2.

1. Contract – Urban Development Solutions, Inc. – Prisoner transportation services

A contract with Urban Development Solutions, Inc., to provide prisoner transportation services.

2. Contracts – (3) – On-call HVAC services

Three contracts to provide HVAC services, on an on-call, as-needed basis for various county-owned and/or operated buildings.

There being no discussion, upon motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Kach, Fiscal Matters 1 and 2 were unanimously approved.

G. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

1. Correspondence - Non-Competitive Awards

At the direction of the Chairman, the Secretary read the correspondence from the Office of Budget and Finance listing the non-competitive awards made during November, 2025.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, upon motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Kach, the meeting was adjourned at 7:13 P.M.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas H. Bostwick". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Thomas H. Bostwick
Legislative Counsel/Secretary