

BALTIMORE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES
LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2026, LEGISLATIVE DAY NO. 7
March 16, 2026 6:00 P.M.

A. The meeting was called to order by Chairman pro tem Crandell at 6:10 P.M. Due to the anticipated threat of inclement weather, the meeting was held virtually via WebEx video teleconference. The Chairman asked the audience to rise for a moment of silent meditation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. There were approximately 55-65 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

B. APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

Upon motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Ertel, the reading of the Journal Entries for the meeting of March 2, 2026 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 8-26, 10-26, 11-26, 12-26 and 13-26.

D. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill 27-26 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 federal funds and made available to the County through the Maryland Department of Health.

Bill 28-26 entitled An Act for the purpose of permitting a lawn treatment company in the Business, Local (B.L.) Zone under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the uses permitted in the B.L. Zone.

G. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

3. Appointment – Baltimore County Adult Public Guardianship Review Board – Robert Ermer

This appointment was deferred to the April 6, 2026 meeting prior to the meeting.

4. Appointment – Baltimore County Advisory Committee on Public School Capacity – Monique Thompson

At the direction of the Chairman, the Secretary read this correspondence from the County Executive appointing Monique Thompson to the Advisory Committee on Public School Capacity for a four-year term that expires on June 30, 2028. There being no discussion, upon motion by Councilman Crandell, seconded by Councilman Jones, this appointment was unanimously confirmed.

E. CALL OF BILLS FOR FINAL READING AND VOTE

Bill 15-26, CEB – Smart Growth America Community Connectors Grant, was called. There being no discussion, upon motion by Councilman Crandell, seconded by Councilman Kach, this Bill passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Bill 16-26, CEB – Statewide Voucher Program, 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 17-26, Zoning Regs. – Permitted Uses in the M.L. Zone in Owings Mills Growth Area, was called. Councilman Jones commented. There being no further 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 18-26, Conduct of Law Enforcement Officers – Masks Prohibited and Identification Required, was called. Councilmembers Patoka and Crandell commented. Councilman Jones questioned Secretary Bostwick. Councilman Patoka moved to amend this Bill with the following amendments:

1. On page 1, in the last line of the purpose paragraph, after “Act;” insert “exempting certain law enforcement officers from the requirements of this Act;”
2. On page 3, in line 1, after “(A)”, insert “(1)”; in line 6, after “STATE.” insert “(2) “LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER” OR “OFFICER” DOES NOT INCLUDE A SWORN MEMBER OF THE BALTIMORE COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT, THE BALTIMORE COUNTY SHERRIFF’S OFFICE, OR THE BALTIMORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS.”.
3. On page 6, at the beginning of line 7, insert “(A)”; in line 11, insert “(B) THIS TITLE DOES NOT APPLY TO A SWORN MEMBER OF THE BALTIMORE COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT, THE BALTIMORE COUNTY SHERRIFF’S OFFICE, OR THE BALTIMORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS.”.

These amendments failed due to lack of a second.

Thereafter, upon motion by Councilman Patoka, Bill 18-26, failed due to lack of a second.

Bill 19-26, Employees Retirement System – County Council Members – Repeal of Bill 40-24, was called. Councilmembers Young and Patoka commented. Councilman Young moved to amend this Bill with the following amendments:

1. On page 1, in the second line of the purpose paragraph, after “adjustments;” insert “clarifying that a service retirement benefit received by a Councilmember is an allowance under certain State laws and may only be amended in accordance with Section 204 of the County Charter and § 2-1-102 of the County Code;”; after the function paragraph, insert the following.
“BY adding
Section 5-1-237(l)
Article 5 – Pensions and Retirement
Title 1 – Employees Retirement System
Subtitle 2 – Retirement System
Baltimore County Code, 2015”.
2. On page 3, in line 10, insert “(L) A BENEFIT RECEIVED BY A FORMER MEMBER OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL UNDER THIS SECTION IS AN ALLOWANCE UNDER § 10-302 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND AND MAY ONLY BE AMENDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 204 OF THE COUNTY CHARTER AND § 2-1-102 OF THE CODE.”.

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

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

Thereafter, upon motion by Councilman Ertel, seconded by Councilman Patoka, Bill 19-26, as amended, passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Bill 20-26, Development Impact Fee, was called. Councilman Marks commented then motioned to extend the Bill to be discussed at the Work Session on Tuesday, March 31, 2026 and Final Reading and Vote to occur at the Legislative Session on Monday, April 6, 2026. Councilman Jones seconded the motion and Bill 20-26 was extended by the following roll call vote:

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

Bill 21-26, Zoning Regs. – Uses Permitted in the Business, Local (B.L.) Zone – Catering Hall, was called. Councilman Marks commented. There being no further discussion, upon motion by Councilman Marks, seconded by Councilman Kach, this Bill passed by the following roll call vote:

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

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 March 10, 2026. 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 pro tem Crandell then called upon the Secretary to read the cover letters for Fiscal Matters 1 through 4.

1. Amendment #2 to Contract – United States Tower Services, LTD, Blue Sky Marketing, Inc. – Radio tower maintenance services

An agreement with United States Tower Services, LTD, Blue Sky Marketing, Inc., to provide radio tower maintenance services.

2. Contract – Bureau Veritas Technical Assessments, LLC-Review/assessment of residential dwelling units – Fair housing accessibility requirements

A contract with Bureau Veritas Technical Assessments, LLC, to provide for the review and assessment of certain residential dwelling units for compliance with UFAS guidelines, ADA standards and other applicable fair housing accessibility requirements.

3. Contract – Precision Concrete Cutting of Delaware and Maryland, Inc.–Sidewalk grinding and tripping hazard removal services

A contract with Precision Concrete Cutting of Delaware and Maryland, Inc., to provide sidewalk grinding and tripping hazards removal services.

4. Contracts – (3) – Snow removal and deicing services

Three contracts to provide snow removal and deicing services.

There being no discussion, upon motion by Councilman Kach, seconded by Councilman Marks, Fiscal Matters 1 through 4 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 February 2026.

2. Res. 8-26 – Baltimore County Water Supply and Sewerage Plan – Cycle 43

At the direction of the Chairman, the Secretary read this Resolution to amend the Baltimore County Water Supply and Sewerage Plan. Councilman Patoka moved to amend this Resolution with the following amendments:

1. On page 2, in the last line, after “2. The” insert “amended”; in the same line, after “Exhibit 2” insert “, as amended”.
2. On page 3, in the first line, strike “designations” and substitute “the water designation”; in the same line, strike “are” and substitute “is”; in the second line, strike “/ S-3 (Capital Facilities Area)” and substitute “and the sewerage designation thereof shall remain S-7 (No Planned Community or Multi-Use Service)”.
3. Strike Exhibit 2 and substitute the attached Exhibit 2, as amended.

Councilman Crandell 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 Patoka, seconded by Councilman Kach, Resolution 8-26, as amended, passed by the following roll call vote:

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

5. Res. 9-26 – Property Tax Exemption – BLIND – Martin Walker

At the direction of the Chairman, the Secretary read this Resolution to approve the refund of certain real property taxes collected from Martin Walker who is entitled to a partial exemption from State and County real property taxes by reason of the exemption afforded to blind persons under State law. There being no discussion, upon motion by Councilman Ertel, seconded by Councilman Kach, this Resolution was unanimously approved.


6. **Res. 10-26 – Accept donation–University of Maryland Shock Trauma Center – Fire Dept.-EMS Division**

This Resolution was for introduction only.

7. **Res. 11-26 – Accept donation – Arborist services – Cromwell Valley Park – Beech Leaf Disease**

This Resolution was for introduction only.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, upon motion by Councilman Ertel, seconded by Councilman Kach, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 P.M.


Thomas H. Bostwick
Legislative Counsel/Secretary