

BALTIMORE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES
LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2026, LEGISLATIVE DAY NO. 8
April 6, 2026 6:00 P.M.

A. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ertel at 6:06 P.M. The Chairman asked the audience to rise for a moment of silent meditation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. There were approximately 54 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 video teleconference

Councilman Kach arrived late to the meeting.

Councilman Crandell left the meeting early.

B. APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

Upon motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Young, the reading of the Journal Entries for the meeting of March 16, 2026 was waived and accepted by the following roll call vote:

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

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 15-26, 16-26, 17-26, 19-26 and 21-26.

D. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill 29-26 entitled An Act for the purpose of providing for certain standards for shelter for outside animals, veterinary care, and other care and treatment; establishing a reckless animal owner designation; authorizing an animal control officer to take certain actions; prohibiting a person from owning an animal under certain circumstances; and generally relating to animals and humane care and protection.

Bill 30-26 entitled An Act for the purpose of authorizing the Animal Hearing Board to order an animal to remain in the custody of the County or in a foster home and to order certain stipulations; repealing a certain mandatory hold period; requiring an expedited hearing and decision; providing for certain exemptions from spay and neuter requirements; making certain technical changes; and generally relating to animals.

Bill 31-26 entitled An Act for the purpose of establishing designations for menacing and potentially dangerous animals; renaming the “Dangerous Animals” title as “Public Safety”; establishing certain civil penalties, waivers of penalties, and appeals under certain circumstances; defining certain terms; and generally relating to animals and public safety.

Bill 32-26 entitled An Act for the purpose of repealing sections of the Baltimore County Code that are being moved to another subtitle; renumbering certain sections; providing for a certain contingency; and generally relating to animals.

Bill 33-26 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 state funds and made available to the County through the State of Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development.

Bill 34-26 entitled An Act for the purpose of replacing obsolete references to the Court of Appeals of Maryland and the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland with the Supreme Court of Maryland and the Appellate Court of Maryland, respectively; and generally relating to State appellate court names.

Bill 35-26 entitled An Act for the purpose of increasing the minimum benefit to a qualifying active volunteer member of the County auxiliary police team of the County Police Department under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the Auxiliary Police Length of Service and Award Program.

Bill 36-26 entitled An Act for the purpose of increasing the maximum area of a freestanding enterprise sign in the Commercial, Community Core District of the Business, Local (B.L.-C.C.C.) Zone under certain circumstances; and generally relating to signs.

Bill 37-26 entitled An Act for the purpose of repealing the Basic Services Sewerage Map, the Basic Services Water Supply Map, and the Basic Services Transportation Map; adopting a new Basic Services Sewerage Map, a new Basic Services Water Supply Map, and a new Basic Services Transportation Map; and generally relating to the Basic Services Maps.

G. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

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

At the direction of the Chairman, the Secretary read this correspondence from the County Executive appointing Robert Ermer to the Baltimore County Adult Public Guardianship Review Board for a term ending September 30, 2028. Councilman Marks commented. There being no further discussion, upon motion by Councilman Marks, seconded by Councilman Ertel, this appointment was confirmed by the following roll call vote:

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

5. Reappointment – Board of Appeals – Sharonne R. Bonardi

At the direction of the Chairman, the Secretary read this correspondence from Councilman Ertel appointing Sharonne R. Bonardi, Esq., to the Baltimore County Board of Appeals for a three-year term that expires April 30, 2029. Councilman Jones commented. There being no further discussion, upon motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Patoka, this reappointment was confirmed by the following roll call vote:

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

6. Reappointment – Board of Appeals – Michael J. Stelmack

At the direction of the Chairman, the Secretary read this correspondence from Councilman Ertel appointing Michael J. Stelmack, to the Baltimore County Board of Appeals for a three-year term that expires April 30, 2029. Councilman Ertel commented. There being no further discussion, upon motion by Councilman Crandell, seconded by Councilman Jones, this reappointment was confirmed by the following roll call vote:

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

E. CALL OF BILLS FOR FINAL READING AND VOTE

Bill 20-26, Development Impact Fee, was called. Councilmembers Marks, Jones and Young commented. The Chairman directed the Secretary to summarize the first set of amendments sponsored by Councilman Kach. Following discussion of the proffered amendments, Councilman Kach motioned to suspend the rules to allow consideration of amendments that were not published on the Council’s webpage prior to the meeting. Councilman Patoka seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Councilman Kach moved to amend the proffered amendment to this Bill, resulting in the following amendment:

1. On page 4, in lines 6 through 9, strike “\$6.00” and substitute “\$5.00”; after line 9, start a new line and insert “(4) A RESIDENTIAL IMPACT FEE CALCULATED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE NO LESS THAN \$10,000 AND NO GREATER THAN \$30,000.”; in line 10, strike “(4)” and substitute “(5)”.

Councilman Jones seconded the motion and this amendment failed by the following roll call vote:

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

The Chairman directed the Secretary to summarize the second set of amendments sponsored by Councilman Marks. Following discussion of the proffered amendments, and the rules having been suspended to allow consideration of amendments that were not published on the Council’s webpage prior to the meeting, Councilman Marks moved to amend the proffered amendment to this Bill, resulting in the following amendments:

1. On page 1, in the second line of the purpose paragraph, after “construction;” insert “providing for a certain exemption from the development impact fee; requiring the County to conduct a study on certain calculations for development impact fees and development excise taxes and submit a report with recommendations to the County Executive and County Council by a certain time;”; after the purpose paragraph, insert the following:
“BY adding
Section 32-6-111(h)(11)
Article 32- Planning, Zoning, and Subdivision Control
Title 6- Adequate Public Facilities
Baltimore County Code, 2015”.

2. On page 3, beginning in line 8, strike “THAT ARE SIMILAR TO THE REST OF THE DWELLING UNIT”.
3. On page 4, after line 9, start a new line and insert “(4) NOTWITHSTANDING PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF A RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE MAY NOT EXCEED \$30,000.”; in line 10, strike “(4)” and substitute “(5)”; after line 15, start a new line and insert “(h) (11) NO DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE SHALL BE IMPOSED ON AN INDIVIDUAL LOT OF RECORD FOR A SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING THAT WAS CREATED PRIOR TO JULY 1, 2020 BUT WAS NOT PART OF A SUBDIVISION PROCESS.”; beginning in line 17, strike “any impact fee previously paid after the effective date of Bill 45-24 that exceeded the method of calculation set forth in this Act shall be refunded within 90 days to the payor of the impact fee, but only for the difference in the amount paid in excess of the method of calculation set forth in this Act.” and substitute “the County is directed to study and review the methodology, calculations, amounts charged, and any other relevant factors related to the County’s Development Impact Fee and Development Excise Tax and by December 31, 2026, submit a report with legislative recommendations to the County Executive and the County Council.”

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

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

Thereafter, upon motion by Councilman Ertel, seconded by Councilman Patoka, Bill 20-26, as amended, passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Bill 23-26, Zoning Regs. – Uses Permitted in the M.L.R. and M.L. Zones – Housing for the Elderly, was called. Councilman Kach commented and moved to amend this Bill with the following amendments:

1. On Page 2, in line 13, strike “AND THE UNITS ARE CONSTRUCTED ON A VACANT LOT,” and substitute “, IS”; in line 14, after “AN”, insert “EXISTING”; in the same line, strike “PLATTED PRIOR TO 2010” and insert “, AND IS ON A LOT THAT IS NOT IMPROVED WITH AN EXISTING BUILDING”.

2. On Page 3, in line 6, strike “AND THE UNITS ARE CONSTRUCTED ON A VACANT LOT” and substitute “, IS”; in line 7, after “AN”, insert “EXISTING”; in the same line, strike “PLATTED PRIOR TO 2010” and substitute “, AND IS ON A LOT THAT IS NOT IMPROVED WITH AN EXISTING BUILDING”.

Councilman Patoka 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 Kach, seconded by Councilman Patoka, Bill 23-26, as amended, passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Bill 24-26, Baltimore County Final Landmarks List, was called. Councilman Kach commented and questioned Mr. Brad Kroner. Councilman Kach moved to amend this Bill with the following amendments:

1. On page 2, in the last WHEREAS paragraph, in the last line, strike “now therefore” and substitute “and”; after the last WHEREAS paragraph, insert the following.
“WHEREAS, the Council intends to preserve the ruins of the following structure;
and
WHEREAS, the setting borders the existing Sparks Park and has been considered for use by the Department of Recreation and Parks; and
WHEREAS, the Council may adopt any structure or portion for inclusion on the County Final Landmarks list; and
WHEREAS, the Council intends to adopt the Sparks School Site and Ruins to the Final Landmarks List; and
WHEREAS, the Council supports retaining the Setting as a portion of Sparks Park, for use by the Department of Recreation and Parks; now therefore”
2. On page 2, in line 7, strike “and setting (1.26 acres)”.

Councilman Marks 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 Kach, seconded by Councilman Marks, Bill 24-26, as amended, passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Bill 25-26, Zoning Regs. – Residential Performance Standards – Panhandle Lots was called. Councilmembers Marks and Patoka commented. There being no further discussion, upon motion by Councilman Marks, seconded by Councilman Ertel, this Bill passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Bill 26-26, County Charter – County Council Compensation and Redistricting, was called. Councilmembers Jones and Patoka commented. There being no further discussion, upon motion by Councilman Jones, this Bill failed for lack of a second.

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 31, 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 Ertel then called upon the Secretary to read the cover letters for Fiscal Matters 1 through 8. Fiscal Matter 9 was discussed separately.

1. Purchase Order – J.S. Held, LLC – Traffic crash investigation training courses

A purchase order with J.S. Held, LLC, to provide two traffic crash investigation training courses.

2. Amendment to Contract – Home Paramount Pest Control – On-call pest control services

An amendment to the contract with Home Paramount Pest Control Company, to provide on-call pest control services at various Baltimore County sites.

3. Contract – Hummer Turfgrass Systems, Inc. – Natural turf and athletic field maintenance/renovation services

A contract with Hummer Turfgrass Systems, Inc., to provide natural turf and athletic fields maintenance and renovation services.

4. Contracts – (2) – Irrigation services

Two contracts with Monarch Landscape – Atlantic, LLC d/b a Complete Landscaping Services and K & C Grounds Maintenance, Inc., to provide irrigation services at various Baltimore County sites.

5. Contracts – (2) – Window washing services

Two contracts with Skyclean, Inc. and Power Washing Pro, to provide window washing services at various Baltimore County Sites.

6. Contract – Honeywell International, Inc. d/b/a Honeywell Building Solutions – Maintenance/repairs building automation system hardware/software

A contract with Honeywell International, Inc. d/b/a Honeywell Building Solutions, to provide maintenance and repairs for pre-existing building automation system hardware and software at various County locations.

7. Contract – A-Tech Hydraulics, Inc. – Repair services – Hydraulic system – Gunpowder Sewage Pumping Station

A contract with A-Tech Hydraulics, Inc., to provide repair services on the hydraulic system at the Gunpowder Sewage Pumping Station.

8. Contract – Broadview Waste Solutions, Inc. – Fluorescent bulb recycling services

A contract with Broadview Waste Solutions, Inc., to provide fluorescent bulb recycling services.

There being no discussion, upon motion by Councilman Marks, seconded by Councilman Jones, Fiscal Matters 1 through 8 were approved by the following roll call vote:

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

The Chairman stated that the Council would now consider Fiscal Matter 9. Chairman Ertel then called upon the Secretary to read the cover letter for Fiscal Matter 9.

9. Contract – Baltimore County Revenue Authority – Parking spaces – Parking facilities – Towson

A contract with Baltimore County Revenue Authority, to provide parking spaces at various parking facilities in the Towson area. Councilmembers Crandell and Jones commented. There being no further discussion, upon motion by Councilman Patoka, seconded by Councilman Ertel, Fiscal Matter 9 was deferred by the following roll call vote:

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

This Fiscal Matter will now be discussed at the Work Session on April 14, 2026 and Final Reading and vote will occur at the Legislative Session on April 20, 2026.

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 March 2026.

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

At the direction of the Chairman, the Secretary read this Resolution to authorize the County to accept a donation of five Delta coolers from the University of Maryland Shock Trauma Center as a way to expedite the startup of the whole blood program in Baltimore County Fire Department, EMS Division. There being no discussion, upon motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Ertel, this Resolution by the following roll call vote:

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

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

At the direction of the Chairman, the Secretary read this Resolution to authorize the County to accept a donation from The Cromwell Valley Park Council, Inc, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation to fund arborist services to treat nine (9) iconic European Beech Trees, located along the Sherwood driveway entrance to Cromwell Valley Park for Beech Leaf Disease, beginning summer 2026 and ending summer 2028. There being no discussion, upon motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Marks, this Resolution was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

7. Res. 12-26 – Property Tax Exemption – BLIND – Ray A. McMillian, III

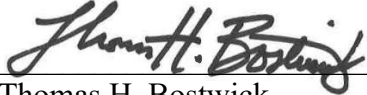
At the direction of the Chairman, the Secretary read this Resolution to approve the refund of certain real property taxes collected from Ray A. McMillian, III who is entitled to a partial exemption from State and County real property taxes by reason of the exemption afforded to blind persons under State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

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

8. Res. 13-26 – Approval of Maryland Rural Legacy Plan Applications (3)

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 7:50 P.M.


Thomas H. Bostwick
Legislative Counsel/Secretary