

BALTIMORE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES
IN-PERSON ONLY WORK SESSION FOR LEGISLATIVE DAY NO. 7
March 10, 2026 4:00 P.M.

A. The meeting in the County Council Conference Room was called to order by Chairman Ertel at 4:03 P.M. There were approximately 43 persons in attendance. The following Councilmembers were present:

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

Councilman Kach was absent the entire meeting.

The Chairman then called the items listed on the Work Session Agenda for discussion as follows:

B. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS - APPOINTMENTS

3. Appointment – Baltimore County Adult Public Guardianship Review Board – Robert Ermer. Mr. Emer introduced himself to the Councilmembers. Councilman Marks commented.

4. Appointment – Baltimore County Advisory Committee on Public School Capacity– Monique Thompson. Ms. Thompson introduced herself to the Councilmembers. Councilmembers Ertel and Patoka commented.

C. APPROVAL OF FISCAL MATTERS/CONTRACTS

1. Amendment #2 to Contract – United States Tower Services, LTD, Blue Sky Marketing, Inc. – Radio tower maintenance services. Chris Martin, Director of the Office of Information Technology summarized the contract amendment and commented. Unrelated to the contract amendment, Councilman Patoka asked Mr. Martin about the Accela permitting system. Mr. Martin responded regarding ongoing upgrades to the system and the Citiworks platform. Councilman Ertel asked how many towers the County has. Mr. Martin responded that there are 20 at 20 different locations.

2. Contract – Bureau Veritas Technical Assessments, LLC-Review/assessment of residential dwelling units – Fair housing accessibility requirements. Terry Hickey, Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development summarized the contract and commented. Councilman Crandell asked a question about applicability of the contract to PILOTs. Mr. Hickey clarified that the contract was generally not applicable to PILOT units. Councilman Ertel asked about change in hourly rates. Mr. Hickey responded that he will check.
3. Contract – Precision Concrete Cutting of Delaware and Maryland, Inc.–Sidewalk grinding and tripping hazard removal services. Tony Russell, Deputy Director of the Department of Public Works & Transportation summarized the contract and commented. Councilman Ertel asked about performance of services. Mr. Russell responded. Councilman Patoka asked about homeowner costs. Mr. Russell responded.
4. Contracts – (3) – Snow removal and deicing services. Tony Russell, Deputy Director of the Department of Public Works & Transportation summarized the contracts and commented.

D. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS - RESOLUTIONS

Res. 8-26 - Baltimore County Water Supply and Sewerage Plan – Cycle 43. Lisa Eicholtz, Deputy Director of the Department of Public Works & Transportation offered comment.

E. BILLS FOR FIRST CONSIDERATION

Bill 23-26 – Zoning Regs. – Uses Permitted in the M.L.R. and M.L. Zones – Housing for the Elderly. In lieu of Councilman Kach’s discussion of the bill, David Karceski summarized the bill and gave favorable testimony. Councilman Patoka asked Mr. Karceski regarding the number of units and acreage. Mr. Karceski responded. Councilmembers Ertel, Patoka, and Crandell commented about using industrially zoned areas for residential. Councilman Young asked Mr. Karceski whether there are other geographic areas that the bill might apply to. Mr. Karceski responded. Councilman Crandell asked Mr. Karceski about the reason for the 150 contiguous acreage requirement. Mr. Karceski responded that he will have to report back.

Bill 24-26 – Baltimore County Final Landmarks List. In lieu of Councilman Kach’s discussion of the bill, Thomas Bostwick, Council Secretary, summarized the bill. Councilman Crandell asked for clarification on the bill. Mr. Bostwick responded.

Bill 25-26 – Zoning Regs. – Residential Performance Standards – Panhandle Lots. Councilman Marks summarized the bill and commented.

Bill 26-26 – County Charter – County Council Compensation and Redistricting. Councilman Jones summarized the bill and commented. Councilman Ertel asked Councilman Jones why the Council may want to do a mid-cycle redistricting. Councilman Jones responded. Councilman Ertel asked for clarification from Mr. Bostwick on the redistricting process prior to the enactment of Bill 47-24. Mr. Bostwick responded. All Councilmembers made comments regarding full-time and part-time status and redistricting. Lakesha Hawes of Essex testified favorably for the bill compensation portion of the bill. Sharonda Huffman of Essex testified against the bill.

F. CALL OF BILLS FOR FINAL READING AND VOTE

Bill 15-26 – CEB – Smart Growth America Community Connectors Grant. As this is the second reading for Bill 15-26 and no questions arose since the first reading, Steve Lafferty, Director of the Department of Planning was excused from testifying on the bill.

Bill 16-26 – CEB – Statewide Voucher Program. As this is the second reading for Bill 16-26 and no questions arose since the first reading, Terry Hickey, Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development was excused from testifying on the bill. Sharonda Huffman of Essex testified favorably for the bill.

Bill 17-26 – Zoning Regs. – Permitted Uses in the M.L. Zone in Owings Mills Growth Area. Councilman Jones summarized the bill and commented. Councilman Patoka asked Councilman Jones whether the units would be age restricted. Councilman Jones responded affirmatively.


Bill 18-26 – Conduct of Law Enforcement Officers – Masks Prohibited and Identification Required. Councilman Patoka summarized the bill and commented. Councilman Crandell commented. Tanawah Downing of the group Justice Without Limits testified on an unrelated topic.

Bill 19-26 – Employees Retirement System – County Council Members – Repeal of Bill 40-24. Councilman Patoka summarized the bill and commented. Councilman Patoka also asked Mr. Bostick to clarify certain aspects of the councilmember salary recommendation from the PSAB. All Councilmembers commented. Sharonda Huffman of Essex testified favorably for the bill. Councilman Jones and Ms. Huffman conversed about related issues. Peta Richkus of Towson testified favorably for the bill. Rob Daniels of Pikesville testified favorably for the bill. Nick Stewart of Catonsville testified favorably for the bill.

Bill 20-26 – Development Impact Fee. In lieu of a summarization from Councilman Marks, Mr. Bostwick summarized the bill.

Bill 21-26 – Zoning Regs. – Uses Permitted in the Business, Local (B.L.) Zone – Catering Hall. In lieu of a summarization from Councilman Marks, Mr. Bostwick summarized the bill.

There being no further business to come before the Council for discussion at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 P.M.


Thomas H. Bostwick
Legislative Counsel/Secretary