

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 26, 2010

The Howard County Council met Tuesday, January 26, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those present included President Richard Miller, Vice President Paul Wyman, and Members James Papacek, Stanley Ortman, Joseph Pencek, Leslie Ellison and Jeff Stout. Also in attendance were County Attorney Larry Murrell and Auditor Ann Wells.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Talbert and conducted by President Richard Miller. President Miller led the Council in a word of Prayer.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the December 15, 2009 Regular Meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Papacek and seconded by Mr. Stout.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL REORGANIZATION ACTIVITY:

Mr. Miller opened the floor for Council officer nominations. A motion was made by Mr. Wyman to nominate Mr. Richard Miller to the office President. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pencek and carried. The nominations were closed on a motion made by Mr. Wyman and seconded by Mr. Ortman. Mr. Richard Miller was elected as President of the County Council.

A motion was made by Mr. Ortman, seconded by Mr. Pencek and carried to nominate Mr. Paul Wyman to the office of Vice President. A motion was made by Mr. Stout to close the nominations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pencek and carried. Mr. Wyman was elected as Vice President of the County Council.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL COMMENT:

President Miller gave comment concerning the present state of the County's economy and the fact that the Council will be working with the possibility of less revenue

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2010-HCCO-03 – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:

Ordinance No. 2010-HCCO-03 – Additional Appropriations was read in full one time by Auditor Ann Wells and acted upon as follows:

		AMOUNT	
<u>010</u>	<u>Howard County Health Department</u>	<u>REQUESTED:</u>	<u>APPROVED:</u>
01118.00	Public Health Nursing Coordinator	\$ 8,095.00	\$ 8,095.00
01117.01	Part Time Preparedness Specialist	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00

Health Officer Dr. Zent and Health Department Director Kent Weaver stepped to the podium to review their requests, as submitted to the PAC Committee. At the January 19th Commissioner Meeting Ms. McKillip submitted the following PAC Committee Recommendation:

1. Increase the Nurse Coordinator's salary from \$41,905.00 to \$50,000.00. The recommendation is based on the fact that the position has been open since October 2009 and a more competitive salary is needed to attract and retain a qualified candidate. The position was offered to three candidates and they all refused the position because of the salary.
2. Recommend to hire a part-time Preparedness Specialist. The budget for 2010 will be \$20,000.00 with an hourly rate of pay of \$20.00. This position was previously the responsibility of the Nurse Coordinator.

NOTE: Both recommendations were made with the understanding that the Health Board must monitor their budget and have a plan in place in case revenues decrease. Since the Health Department increased their fees in 2009 they stated they are certain the fees will generate enough funding to maintain these positions.

The Board of Commissioners approved the PAC Committee recommendation and forwarded it to the County Council (*please refer to page three, item two, "In The Matter Of Personnel Department Issues" of the Regular Meeting dated*

January 19, 2010). Dr. Zent believes the raise in salary is vital because the County has to compete with the private sector for nursing personnel. Concerning the request to hire a Part Time Preparedness Specialist, the Preparedness work was done by a previous nursing coordinator, and is now being done by Mr. Weaver. Councilman Papacek commented that he believes it's important to approve the PAC Committee recommendation because the Health Department nursing positions are underpaid.

At the conclusion of ensuing discussion a motion was made by Mr. Ortman, seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried to approve the PAC Committee Recommendation as submitted. Personnel Director Wanda McKillip expressed appreciation to Dr. Zent and Mr. Weaver and commended them for the work they are accomplishing at the Health Department.

TOTAL HEALTH FUND		\$ 28,095.00	\$ 28,095.00
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105	<u>Howard County Adult Probation</u>		
03564.00	Rental Lease Services	\$ 12,600.00	\$ 12,600.00

Chief Probation Officer Don Travis submitted this request as a way to finance the purchase of a new server for Kinsey Youth Center and the Juvenile Probation Department. This server is being leased from Leasenet, and is funded by user fees.

The request of \$12,600.00 to line item 03564.00, Rental Lease Services is approved on a motion made by Mr. Papacek and seconded by Mr. Stout.

700	<u>Howard County Clerk-Document Storage Fund</u>		
04721.00	Equipment	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00

Clerk Mona Myers is contracting with CSI for the JTS statewide case management system that connects courts with each other and with State agencies that need court information. This Additional request is for the purchase of a new server in the Courthouse needed for this system. The Document Storage Fund is for the express purpose of imaging and storing documents, as well as making them available to agencies that need them. Ms. Myers continued to review with the Council the status of this ongoing project.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the request of \$40,000.00 to line item 04721.00, Equipment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2010-HCCR-01 – TRANSFERS:

Resolution No. 2010 – HCCR-01 – Transfers was read in full one time by Auditor Wells and acted upon as follows:

	<u>Transfer From:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Amount Requested:</u>	<u>Allowed:</u>
001	<u>Howard County General</u>			
005	<u>Howard County Sheriff Department</u>			
01117.01	Lieutenant	01121.00 Longevity	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 1,050.00

Sheriff Talbert informed the Council that an error was found in the Deputy's Longevity Fund after the encumbrance process. He needs to transfer funds to correct this error. Because Deputy Larry Sparks is still in the Middle East, there are enough funds in the Lieutenant line item to fund the transfer.

The transfer of \$1,050.00 from line item 01117.01, Lieutenant to 01121.00, Longevity was approved on a motion made by Mr. Wyman and seconded by Mr. Papacek.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2010-HCCO-04 – SALARY ORDINANCE FOR 2010:

Ordinance No. 2010-HCCO-04- Salary Ordinance for 2010 was submitted and read by Auditor Ann Wells, and approved on a motion made by Mr. Papacek and seconded by Mr. Ellison.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT:

An Employment Agreement between Howard County and Lawrence R. Murrell for services rendered as the Howard County Attorney / Coordinator to the Howard County Board of Commissioners, the Howard County Drainage Board, and the Howard County Council, was submitted. This agreement is for the term of two years, to expire December 31, 2011, and has been approved and signed by the Board of Commissioners and the Drainage Board. A motion was made by Mr. Wyman to approve the Employment Agreement with Mr. Murrell for a term of two years. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY APPOINTMENTS:

Attorney Murrell reminded the Council that the Redevelopment Authority Commission is a five member Commission that began in 1995 for Chrysler financing and the payment of bonds. Mr. Murrell believes it is important to keep the Redevelopment Authority viable and asks the Council to consider the reappointment of Bradley Newton and E.P. Severns Jr. to the Commission. The other three members are appointed by the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Bradley Newton and Mr. E. P. Severns Jr. were reappointed to the Redevelopment Authority Commission on a motion made by Mr. Stout and seconded by Mr. Papacek.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 10-HCCO-5:

Public Defender Steve Raquet submitted Appropriation Ordinance No. 10-HCCO-5 for the Supplemental Public Defender Services Fund. Expenditures from this fund can be used at the discretion of the Howard County Public Defender for items designated as: equipment, special court reporter expenses, travel expenses, witness fees, expert witness fees, expert witness analysis, investigation, continuing legal education, subscriptions, office expenses, and any other purpose deemed appropriate by the Public Defender consistent with Indiana Code 33-9-11.5. A motion was made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried to approve the Appropriation Ordinance No. 10-HCCO-5 of the Supplemental Public Defender Services Fund.

IN THE MATTER OF EMPLOYEE REPLACEMENT FOR SUPERIOR COURT I:

Judge William Menges of Superior Court I submitted a request to replace retiring employee Ann Leal. Ms. Leal is currently the Court Reporter and plans to retire April 1, 2010. Laura Stiner is the Drug Court Administrator and has been on Maternity Leave. Because Ms. Stiner has received extensive training, she will be promoted to the Court Reporter position. Judge Menges asks permission to replace Ms. Stiner's former position and rename it Assistant Court Reporter. Judge Menges continued to review current Drug Court data with the Council. At its conclusion, a motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the employee replacement request and to rename the position Assistant Court Reporter. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stout and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO THE PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT BOARD OF APPEALS:

County Assessor Jamie Shepherd submitted a request to the Council to reappoint Mr. Ralph Reddersdorff and Ms. Christine Clear to the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals (PTABOA). This is a five member Board with three appointments to be made by the Board of Commissioners and two appointments by the County Council. At their January 19th meeting the Board of Commissioners reappointed Mr. William Sahn, Ms. Virginia Baker, and Ms. Ann Harrigan to the Board (*please refer to page five, "In The Matter Of Reappointments to The Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals", of the Regular Commissioner Meeting minutes dated January 19, 2010*). Both Mr. Reddersdorff and Ms. Clear have their Level II Certifications and did a good job on the Board, last year. A motion was made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Wyman and carried to reappoint Mr. Ralph Reddersdorff and Ms. Christine Clear to the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals.

IN THE MATTER OF THE WILDCAT GUARDIANS PRESENTION:

Mr. Hod Peabody of the Wildcat Guardians gave a presentation to the Council concerning the activities of the organization. "The Wildcat Guardians are a not for profit membership organization dedicated to protecting the health and beauty of Wildcat Creek." This organization was formed in 1990 in response to abuses that were witnessed along the Wildcat Creek, especially those of trash dumping and illegal construction activities in the flood plain. Mr. Peabody reviewed the organizations' activities and invited the Elected Officials and their families to a "Discover Wildcat Creek" canoe ride.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS:

Personnel Director Wanda McKillip submitted the following appointments for the Council’s consideration:

Howard County Alcoholic Beverage Commission	Kent Evans	One year to expire 12/31/2010
City Of Firsts Automotive Heritage Museum Board	Jon Holmes	Three years to expire 12/31/2012

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to appoint Mr. Kent Evans to the Howard County Alcoholic Beverage Commission for term of one year, and Mr. Jon Holmes to the City of Firsts Automotive Heritage Museum Board for a term of three years. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wyman and carried.

IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Sheriff Talbert submitted the following issues for the Council’s information and approval:

1. **Commissary Fund Report:** Sheriff Talbert submitted the December, 2009 Commissary Report.
2. **Reserve Deputies:** Sheriff Talbert informed the Council that in the year 2009 three Reserve Deputies served 1500 hours in Howard County. Sheriff Talbert commended the Deputies and plans to appoint two more Reserve Deputies.
3. **Dodge Vehicles:** The two Dodge Chargers recently purchased are working out very well, and were assigned to more experienced Officers.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Papacek and seconded by Mr. Ortman.

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL:

RICHARD A. MILLER, PRESIDENT

PAUL WYMAN, VICE PRESIDENT

JAMES T. PAPACEK, COUNCILMAN

LESLIE ELLISON, COUNCILMAN

STANLEY ORTMAN, COUNCILMAN

JEFFREY STOUT, COUNCILMAN

JOSEPH PENCEK, COUNCILMAN

ATTEST:

ANN WELLS, AUDITOR
Howard County Council Meeting January 26, 2010