

April 25, 2019

The regular meeting of the County Commissioners of Allegany County was held in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Allegany Room 100, 701 Kelly Road, Cumberland, at 5:00 p.m. on the above date. The following were present: Commissioner Jacob C. Shade; Commissioner Creade V. Brodie, Jr.; Commissioner David J. Caporale; County Administrator Brandon S. Butler; and County Attorney William M. Rudd. The following business was transacted:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

MOTION

Upon County Administrator Brandon Butler's request, the Board of County Commissioners, without objection, added Item 8 – Budget Amendment for the Allegany County Animal Shelter to the Agenda under Consent.

There were no further additions or deletions to the Agenda.

MOTION

Upon Motion by Commissioner Caporale, seconded by Commissioner Brodie, and Motion carried, the Commissioners approved the Minutes of the April 11, 2019, public business meeting.

PRESENTATION

Item 1 – Recognition of Retirement – Julianna M. Albowicz, Western Maryland Outreach Director for U.S. Senator Christopher J. Van Hollen, Jr. Commissioner Shade called forward Ms. Julianna M. Albowicz, Western Outreach Director for U.S. Senator Christopher J. Van Hollen, Jr. Ms. Albowicz remarked that it was such an honor and privilege to participate in this evening's meeting. She announced that after fifteen and a half years of representing two different Senators in Western Maryland, she will be retiring effective May 7, 2019. Ms. Albowicz acknowledged that it has been an honor and privilege to serve Allegany County, "bringing Washington to (you), and taking (you) to Washington, D.C.". She noted her appreciation for the camaraderie, and added that if there is anything she can do in her retirement, please let her know through her dear friend, Robin Summerfield. Ms. Albowicz acknowledged Ms. Sara Roth, present in the audience as another dear friend, and explained that Ms. Roth is with Congressman David Trone's Office.

Ms. Albowicz concluded her remarks with a quote from former Senator Barbara Mikulski: "Though I'm turning a new page, make no mistake, I'm not writing the last chapter. Goodbyes are not forever, goodbyes are not the end, they simply mean I'll miss you until we meet again. Goodbye tension – Hello pension!"

Commissioner Brodie remarked on what a privilege it has been for him to work with Ms. Albowicz for the past nine years, commenting that there was never anything politically motivated about her, but rather she was motivated by what she could do to help. He thanked her for that on behalf of the citizens of Allegany County.

Commissioner Shade told Ms. Albowicz that it has been a pleasure to get to know her these past years, and he then read and presented her with an official Citation in appreciation and commendation of her service to Allegany County Government. A round of applause followed.

Commissioner Caporale then said that he also wanted to echo what a pleasure Ms. Albowicz has been to work with, as well as a delight to be around. He wished her the very best in her retirement.

Commissioner Shade also acknowledged Ms. Sara Roth and added that she will be opening a District Office in Cumberland for Congressman Trone. He pointed out that it will be the first time since 2012 that Allegany County has had a congressional office in Allegany County. Commissioner Shade said that he wanted to publicly thank Congressman Trone for doing that and added that it means a lot.

PUBLIC HEARING

Item 2 – Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Hearings – Community Development, Economic Development and Housing Needs, Locust Grove Sewage Improvements Phase 1 Project, Flintstone Wastewater Treatment Plant Preliminary Engineering Report, and the Oldtown Wastewater Treatment Plant Preliminary Engineering Report – David K. Nedved, Economic & Community Development Representative, explained that the hearings this evening are required public hearings, and provide an opportunity for anyone who wishes to express comments or concerns about community development, economic development, and housing needs; and also to express comments or concerns regarding certain projects, as set forth and detailed on Mr. Nedved's Staff Report to County Administrator Brandon Butler dated April 16, 2019. A copy of this

Staff Report and a copy of the Notice of Public Hearings are attached to and made a part of these Minutes. Mr. Nedved provided additional background and information as set forth on these attachments.

The draft application and engineering reports will be available for the public to review and to provide comments on Monday, April 22, 2019, until Friday, May 3, 2019, during normal business hours at the Allegany County Department of Economic and Community Development, 701 Kelly Road, Suite 400, Cumberland, Maryland.

Following Mr. Nedved's presentation, Commissioner Shade opened the Public Hearings and invited any comments. There were none. Hearings closed.

ACTION AGENDA

Item 3 – Resolution 19-7 – Maryland Jobs Access/Reverse Commuter Grant – Board of County Commissioners to approve Resolution 19-7 to file an application with the Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Transit Administration for grants under the Federal Transit Act, Statewide Coordination and Technical Assistance Grant and/or a Maryland Jobs Access/Reverse Commuter Grant – Tanya L. Gomer, Grants Writer, told the Commissioners that Allegany County is seeking a three-year grant for job access to take employees from Cumberland from a door-to-door access point to the North Branch Industrial Park. She explained that the businesses in the NBIP have expressed concerns about their difficulties getting second and third shift employees because of transportation issues. Ms. Gomer provided some details about this grant opportunity: It would be three years; for \$150,000 per year, with a \$30,000 County match, that would provide door-to-door access. She pointed out that with passage of Resolution 19-7 this evening, the grant application could be submitted this week. Ms. Gomer added that with this grant, the County should hopefully see a significant increase in the amount of people having access to quality jobs at North Branch Industrial Park.

Commissioner Shade thanked Ms. Gomer for her work regarding this grant, and he thanked County Administrator Butler as well for all his efforts in this regard.

Upon Motion made by Commissioner Shade, seconded by Commissioner Brodie, and duly carried, the Board of County Commissioners approved Resolution 19-7 to file an application with the Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Transit Administration for grants under the Federal Transit Act, Statewide Coordination and Technical Assistance Grant and/or a Maryland Jobs Access/Reverse Commuter Grant.

CONSENT AGENDA

As recommended by the County Administrator

Upon Motion by Commissioner Brodie, seconded by Commissioner Caporale, and Motion carried, the Consent Agenda as recommended by the County Administrator is adopted.

Item 4 – LaVale Toll House Cedar Shingle Roof Replacement Bid Award – Board of County Commissioners accepted the bid of \$62,300 from Hite Roofing, Cumberland, Maryland, for the LaVale Toll House Cedar Shingle Roof Replacement and authorized the President to sign the necessary project construction contract documents.

Item 5 – Surplus Real Property – Board of County Commissioners accepted the offer by Robert M. Rice to purchase the property know as RR McMullen Highway, Lot 12, 67 x 609, Property Tax Account Number 06-041167, which was previously declared surplus and advertised, and authorized the President to sign the closing documents.

Item 6 – Transfer of Surplus Property – Board of County Commissioners approved and authorized the transfer of property owned by the Board of County Commissioners, located at 327 Maryland Avenue, Westernport, Maryland, Property Tax Account #08-016674, to the Town of Westernport, and authorized the President to sign the deed and other closing documents.

Item 7 – Transfer of Surplus Property – Board of County Commissioners approved and authorized the transfer of property owned by the Board of County Commissioners, located at 439 Division Street, Westernport, Maryland, Property Tax Account #08-006814, to the Town of Westernport, and authorized the President to sign the deed and other closing documents.

Item 8 – Budget Amendment for the Allegany County Animal Shelter – Board of County Commissioners approved a supplementary appropriation to the Allegany County Animal Shelter to be disbursed from funds the organization would otherwise receive with the passage of the FY 2020 budget effective July 1, 2019.

County Administrator Brandon S. Butler thanked the Commissioners for approving the Jobs Access/Reverse Commuter Grant. He said that he wanted to add one thing: Courtney Thomas Winterberg with the Department of Social Services is also adding some of her funds as part of the local match required for that Grant. He remarked on the very good consortium of individuals and organizations.

Mr. Butler also pointed out that applications are still being accepted for the Commissioners Fellowship. He reported there are already a number of very good applicants for this year's pool, and he confirmed that the application process will continue until April 30, 2019.

Commissioners' statements, comments, recognition –

Commissioner David J. Caporale had no further comments.

Commissioner Creade V. Brodie, Jr., also had no further comments.

Constituents – In order of sign-up sheet –

Ms. Michelle Ingrodi introduced herself and said that she was with the U.S. Census Bureau. Ms. Ingrodi explained that in 2020, the Census Bureau is going to conduct the decennial census, which she said determines how approximately \$700 billion in Federal funding is spent. Ms. Ingrodi further explained that about a million people will be hired throughout the United States and its Territories to conduct this Census, with 566 of those positions to be here in Allegany County. She added that the positions will pay \$18.15 an hour, and that both full-time and part-time positions are available. Ms. Ingrodi remarked that it is "very, very easy to get hired", and she provided the minimum requirements for the job: Applicants must be 18 years of age and a U.S. citizen, have a valid Social Security Number, and be registered with the Selective Service (if required to do so). She pointed out that no degrees or experience are needed, and that so far, 280 applications, of which 265 are qualified, have been received for Allegany County.

Ms. Ingrodi went on to explain that when the Census Bureau gets an incomplete count, which means no response to the Census form mailed out, the County will lose per person about \$19,000 in aid from the Federal Government. She told the Commissioners that hiring all of the Census workers needed will help assure a complete count, and she asked them for help in getting the word out about the positions.

Commissioner Shade told Ms. Ingrodi that the Commissioners are in the process of setting up a Complete Count Committee with her colleague from Hagerstown, along with some local people. He agreed that the key is that for every person who doesn't answer the Census, locally \$19,000 in Federal aid is lost over ten years. Commissioner Shade commented that the Census is tremendously important, and mentioned that Frostburg has had one of the lowest response rates in either the state or the country. He pointed out that it is actually where you are staying the night of March 31-April 1, 2020 that applies; so, if you are enrolled in school in Frostburg on those dates, that is where you should be counted for the Census.

Commissioner Shade told Ms. Ingrodi that he would make sure she is invited to the Complete County Kickoff to be held in the Commissioners meeting room in May. He also told her that her contact information will be added to the County website as a link.

Mr. Gene Faust from the Barton Fire Department spoke next. He said that he applied for the LOSAP Program and was turned down for it. Mr. Faust explained that he told Commissioner Brodie about this, and that Commissioner Brodie was going to get in touch with Roger Bennett, who did not call Mr. Faust. He explained further that he attended the last meeting in Lonaconing where everyone was signed up for LOSAP, and that he was told that everyone was in the Program except him. Mr. Faust pointed out that he has 54 years in, but he was still told that he didn't sign up originally for LOSAP ten years ago in Westernport, even though he, his Chief, the Secretary, and the Treasurer (from Barton Fire Department) all signed up together. He said he was also told that it was a "glitch in the paperwork", but he was still turned down.

Commissioner Shade told Mr. Faust that the Commissioners would see what they could do. He asked if LOSAP is administered through the State or the County, and Commissioner Brodie replied that it is kind of like an insurance policy. He added that Steve Kesner is the person who administers it. Commissioner Brodie apologized to Mr. Faust for not getting a response about this, telling him that he (Commissioner Brodie) made two calls on Mr. Faust's behalf.

Commissioner Shade again told Mr. Faust that the Commissioners would see if they could get the matter resolved for him. Commissioner Brodie thanked Mr. Faust for bringing in his information.

Mr. Kenneth Wilmont, 513 Fort Avenue, Cumberland, discussed his concerns about the Animal Shelter, which he described as now “unacceptable”. At the conclusion of his remarks, he thanked for the Commissioners for their time.

Reminders/Upcoming Meetings –

Next Public Business Meeting – Thursday, May 9, 2019

Commissioner Shade added that the first reading of the Budget will be at the May 9, 2019 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come to the attention of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Jacob C. Shade, President

True Copy
Attest:

Cynthia A. Young
Recording Secretary



ALLEGANY COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
& COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Stema

701 Kelly Road, Suite 400 • Cumberland, Maryland 21502

STAFF REPORT

TO: Brandon S. Butler, County Administrator

FROM: David K. Nedved^{dfh}, Economic & Community Development Representative

DATE: April 16, 2019

RE: Required Application Hearing:
Locust Grove Sewage Improvements Phase 1 Project
Required Progress Hearings:
Bowling Green Improvements Project
Locust Grove Sewage Improvements Design Project
Flintstone Preliminary Engineering Report
Oldtown Preliminary Engineering Report

For the Agenda of: April 25, 2019

Background: By June 5, 2019, the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) will accept applications for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from eligible jurisdictions throughout the state. Allegany County intends to submit an application for \$800,000 for the Locust Grove Sewage Improvements Phase 1 Project. The project cost for the first phase of the Locust Grove Sewage Improvements Project is estimated to be \$11,131,000 overall with \$9,272,000 for construction cost and \$1,854,000 for Engineering, Administrative and Inspection Costs. The \$800,000 in CDBG funding being pursued this year would help cover the construction costs.

Also, DHCD has provided CDBG's for four active projects in Allegany County. These are the Bowling Green Improvements Project, \$780,000, the Locust Grove Sewage Improvements Design Project, \$800,000, the Flintstone Preliminary Engineering Report (PER), \$40,000, and the Oldtown Preliminary Engineering Report (PER), \$40,000.

Issues: As part of the CDBG application process for the Locust Grove Sewage Improvements Phase 1 Project, a public hearing must be held for public input. In the case of the four active projects, a requirement of accepting CDBG funding is that a

public hearing has to be held on the progress of the project while it is in the active phase. These public hearings are required to be held during a Commissioners' Public Meeting and a formal Notice of Public Hearings has to be given at least five (5) days before the hearings. The notice will be advertised in the Cumberland Times-News on Saturday April 20, 2019. The public hearings will be at the April 25, 2018, Commissioners' public meeting.

Financial Impact: If awarded, a CDBG will provide \$800,000 for the Locust Grove Sewage Improvements Phase 1 Project. For the four active projects, \$1.66 million in total of awarded CDBG's are at risk if hearings are not held.

Alternatives: None

Other Considerations: N/A

Conformity to County Policy: The County has already expressed support for the Locust Grove Sewage Improvements Project by putting it on Allegany County's Capital Improvement Plan for the years 2019-2023. For the all the active projects, the County Commissioners authorized Resolutions to apply for and accept the awarded funds.

Recommendation: Please schedule the CDBG hearings for the April 25, 2019, public meeting.

DKN:kam

cc: Jeffrey S. Barclay, Director – Economic & Community Development
Jason M. Bennett, Director – Finance
Paul F. Kahl, Director – Public Works
Mark W. Yoder, Chief – Utilities Division
Whitney M. Daugherty, Engineer – Public Works

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development
Community Development Block Grant
Board of County Commissioners of Allegany County, Maryland

The Allegany County Commissioners will conduct Public Hearings on the following subjects:

1. To obtain the views of citizens on:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING NEEDS

2. To offer citizens the opportunity to review application for funds for:

LOCUST GROVE SEWAGE IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1 PROJECT

The draft application will be available for the public to review and to provide comments on Monday, April 22, 2019, until Friday, May 3, 2019, during normal business hours at the Allegany County Department of Economic and Community Development, 701 Kelly Road, Suite 400, Cumberland, MD.

3. To offer citizens the opportunity to review the progress of:

- a. **BOWLING GREEN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**
- b. **LOCUST GROVE SEWAGE IMPROVEMENTS DESIGN PROJECT**
- c. **FLINTSTONE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT**
- d. **OLDTOWN WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT**

The hearings will be held in the Allegany County Commissioners' Public Meeting Room 100, 701 Kelly Road, Cumberland, MD, at 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 25, 2019.

Citizens will be furnished with information including but not limited to:

- the amount of Community Development Block Grant funds available for the State Fiscal Year 2020;
- the range of activities that may be undertaken with Community Development Block Grant funds; and

- the proposed projects under consideration by the Allegany County Commissioners

For the **LOCUST GROVE SEWAGE IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1 PROJECT**, the Allegany County Commissioners propose to submit an application to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development on or before the June 5, 2019, the deadline for a Community Development Block Grant. This activity meets the National Block Grant objective of providing assistance to low- and moderate-income households.

The **BOWLING GREEN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT** and the **LOCUST GROVE SEWAGE IMPROVEMENTS DESIGN PROJECT** are both being funded partially by Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Block Grants. The **FLINTSTONE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT** and the **OLDTOWN WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT** are both being funded fully by Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Block Grants.

Information and records for these projects are available for review at the Allegany County Department of Economic and Community Development, 701 Kelly Road, Suite 400, Cumberland, MD.

The Maryland Community Development Block Grant Program is a federally funded program designed to assist governments with activities directed toward neighborhood and housing revitalization, economic development and improved community facilities and services. It is administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

The Maryland Community Development Block Grant Program reflects the State's economic and community development priorities and provides public funds for activities which meet one of the following national objectives, in accordance with the Housing Community Development Act of 1974, as amended:

1. Benefit low and moderate income persons and households;
2. Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight;
3. Meet other community development needs of an urgent nature, or that are an immediate threat to community health and welfare.

Efforts will be made to accommodate the disabled and non-English speaking residents with at least three days' advance notice to David Nedved at 301-876-9513.

Jacob C. Shade, President
Board of County Commissioners
of Allegany County, Maryland

Adv: April 20, 2019

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