



COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

APPROVED

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland convened via video conference at 1:20 P.M. on Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

PRESENT

Councilmember Sidney Katz, President
Councilmember Gabe Albornoz
Councilmember Evan Glass
Councilmember Nancy Navarro

Councilmember Tom Hucker, Vice President
Councilmember Andrew Friedson
Councilmember Will Jawando
Councilmember Craig Rice

Councilmember Hans Riemer

The President in the Chair.

Ms. Navarro gave remarks honoring the community heroes that are seen working hard every day on the front line, often minorities and people of color, such as grocery store clerks, bus drivers, custodians, childcare workers, health aides and nurses, among others.

GENERAL BUSINESS

A. **Announcements** - Agenda and Calendar Changes

Ms. Singleton, Clerk of the Council, announced an addendum adding for introduction a resolution to approve the FY21 System Development Charge; and a FY21 budget update and status report.

(1) B. **Acknowledgement - [Receipt of Petitions](#)**

There were no petitions received this week.

C. Approved, without objection, the minutes of March 31, 2020, and the closed session minutes of April 7, 14, and 21, 2020.

(1.5) **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Approved the consent calendar item listed below.

Mr. Riemer made the motion, which carried without objection. Mr. Hucker was temporarily absent. Later in the meeting, Mr. Hucker stated that had he been present he would have voted in the affirmative.

- A. **Introduced** a resolution to approve FY21 System Development Charge. Action is scheduled for May 13, 2020.

(2) **PUBLIC HEARING/ACTION** - [Special appropriation to Montgomery County Public Schools' \(MCPS\) FY20 Operating Budget - \\$303,094 for the Comprehensive School Safety Initiative Program Grant](#)

The public hearing was held and the record closed.

Adopted **Resolution 19-447**, approving the subject special appropriation.

Mr. Rice made the motion, which carried. Mr. Hucker was temporarily absent. Later in the meeting, Mr. Hucker stated that had he been present he would have voted in the affirmative.

(3) **PUBLIC HEARING/ACTION** - [Special appropriation to MCPS' FY20 Operating Budget - \\$962,000 for the Striving Readers' Comprehensive Literacy Grant](#)

The public hearing was held and the record closed.

Adopted **Resolution 19-448**, approving the subject special appropriation.

Mr. Rice made the motion, which carried. Mr. Hucker was temporarily absent. Later in the meeting, Mr. Hucker stated that had he been present he would have voted in the affirmative.

WORKSESSION - FY21 Operating Budget

(4) **FY21 Budget update and status report:**

- [FY21 continuity of services revenue and expenditures changes](#)
- [Fiscal policy update](#)
- [Review of potential Council changes to continuity of services](#)
- [Review of expenditures for potential Federal funding](#)

Ms. Michaelson, Council Executive Director, presented an update on the status of the budget, as contained in the staff report. Participating in the discussion were Mr. Madaleno, Director, Office of Management and Budget (OMB); Mr. Howard, Deputy Director, and Mr. Smith, Legislative Analyst.

Ms. Michaelson noted that in the context of work that is being done now on the budget as more time passes, the FY21 budget will look grimmer as the County continues to deal with issues stemming from the COVID-19 health crisis. The Council has already identified numerous programs it believes are critical to revisit for funding early in FY21, especially in Health and Human Services.

Ms. Michaelson reviewed the updated tracking figures, which have been revised to show Council decisions through yesterday, May 11. Noted that the Council reduced expenditures by \$71.6 million from the Executive recommended budget to create a continuity of services budget. Potential additions above the continuity of services budget will be voted on individually. Regarding resources, the Council decided to continue to use the method used in the past to calculate the Charter Limit, resulting in a reduction in resources of \$72.6 million. The Council also increased resources with transfers from the Housing Initiative Fund (HIF) and Alcoholic Beverage Services of \$6.2 million for a net reduction in resources of \$66.4 million.

Of the four different items the Council asked staff to consider for potential funding under the CARES Act, staff believes that only one is likely to qualify: \$110,000 for the Office of the County Attorney (OCA) for outside counsel to assist with a temporary, but substantial, workload increase affecting children upon the reopening of the Juvenile Court and other institutions.

Briefly discussed the CARES Act and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursements for municipalities. Noted that the Executive Branch is carving out a portion of CARES Act funding to reimburse municipalities and will also provide expertise and technical assistance.

In response to a FY21 savings plan, Mr. Madaleno stated that more usable information on revenue will be available at end of June when the State provides figures for April and May, when the initial impact of the pandemic will be apparent. He will continue to update the Council as information is available. During its review of each Department's budget, the Council identified six potential additions to tax-supported budgets, which were taken up individually:

Unanimously approved Mr. Jawando's motion to add \$234,000 for the Department of Correction and Rehabilitation: enhance cell vent, bunk, door retrofitting to reduce self-harm.

Unanimously approved Ms. Navarro's motion to add \$110,000 for OCA: outside Counsel increase.

Unanimously approved Mr. Friedson's motion to add \$700,000 for Emergency Management and Homeland Security (EMHS): new security grants to faith-based organizations out of continuity of services budget.

Unanimously approved Mr. Albornoz's motion to add \$887,761 for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS): add 10 school health nurses.

Unanimously approved Mr. Riemer's motion to add \$75,116 for the Office of Human Rights: Investigator II position.

Unanimously approved Mr. Riemer's motion to add \$36,644 for the Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC): delete funds for rental licenses (carryover from previous year).

Unanimously approved Mr. Friedson's motion to add \$180,000 for the Department of Recreation: Senior Transportation Initiative.

During its review of each Department's budget, the Council identified one potential addition to non-tax supported budgets, which was taken up separately:

Unanimously approved Mr. Hucker's motion to add \$341,439 for Solid Waste Disposal: add three Field Inspector positions.

The meeting adjourned at 2:24 P.M.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Approved/Signed by Clerk of the Council

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.
Clerk of the Council