

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CAROLINE COUNTY

109 Market Street, Room 106, Denton, Maryland

### Minutes April 9, 2019

Present: President, Larry C. Porter; Vice President, Daniel J. Franklin, Commissioner, Wilbur Levensgood, Jr.; Jeremy Goldman, County Administrator; Heather Price, County Attorney; Sara Visintainer, Chief of Staff; and Jennifer Farina, Administrative Coordinator

Commissioner Porter Called for **public comment** and Pastor Paul Twinning came to the podium to invite the Commissioners and public to the annual National Day of Prayer May 3<sup>rd</sup> at noon on the Courthouse lawn.

**Introductions of New Caroline County Deputies:** Randy Bounds, Sheriff, formally introduced the Commissioners to Deputy First Class, Mark Hopkins and Deputy Jonathan Nikodemski. Sheriff Bounds stated that the Caroline County Sheriff's Office is looking forward to working with both deputies. The Commissioner's thanked both deputies and welcomed them to Caroline County.

**Presentation on DaVita's New Dialysis Clinic in Caroline County:** Kyle Hopkins, Regional Operations Director, DaVita, Inc. stated that the new facility opened the first week of April in Caroline County. Mr. Hopkins explained that DaVita has a five star ranking across the State of Maryland for its outpatient clinical performance. He stated that Caroline County has several local residents that will benefit from having this facility in Denton, which will allow many to receive care they may not have gotten unless they had transportation to neighboring counties. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Hopkins and stated that they look forward to the community benefiting from the new clinic.

**Second Reading and Public Hearing: Legislative Bill # 2019-2, Chapter 152 – Roads, Bridges, and Rights-of-Way – Modifications from Specification and Design Standards for County Roads:** Ms. Visintainer stated that this bill is an act concerning specification and design standards for County roads; for the purpose of providing a process to allow modifications from the specification and design standards for County roads under certain circumstances; by adding a new 152-8.B. to the Code of Public Local Laws of Caroline County, Maryland.

Commissioner Porter stated that no one signed up for testimony and called for any public comment. There was none and he announced that the third reading and potential enactment would be on May 14, 2019.

**2019 Legislative Update:** Ms. Visintainer stated that 2019 legislative session was officially completed. Local bills that did not pass but may next year included the school construction bills, and English as a second language bill. She also stated that all gun law bills died as well as the law enforcement transparency bill.

**Approval of Proposed FY2020 Operating & Capital Budgets and FY2020 Tax Rates:** Margaret Roe, Director, Caroline County Office of Finance, reviewed the proposed operating and capital budgets with the Commissioners, as well as the schedule of proposed revenues including tax rates. She stated that the property tax rate is not proposed to change, though the tax differential formula is not fully funded. The operating budget includes several top priorities of the Commissioners, including pay raises for County employees and Sheriff's deputies, an expansion of the school resource officer program to provide an officer at every campus, and adding additional 911 dispatchers. On motion by Commissioner Franklin, seconded by Commissioner Levensgood, the Commissioners unanimously voted to release the proposed

FY2020 Operating and Capital Budget and the FY2020 Tax Rates. The public hearing on the proposed budget and tax rates will be held on May 14, 2019 at the Greensboro Volunteer Fire Company Community hall at 6:00 PM.

**Consent Agenda: The following items were approved by unanimous consent.**

- Memorandum of Understanding between Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration and Caroline County Commissioners for the Weed Control Program
- Resolution #2019-007, Disposal of Surplus County Equipment, Caroline County Department of Public Works, Freightliner
- Employment Contract, Department of Emergency Services, EMS—Paramedic (Marvel)
- P.O # 2019-0452 and Accompanying Contract, TGM Group LLC, Auditing Services, \$60,000.00
- P.O #2019-0456 and Accompanying Contract, Rex Landscaping and Nursery LLC, \$49,410.00
- Approval of Amended and Restated PNC Commercial Card Program Authorization Agreement
- Approval of the Semiannual Property Tax Payments Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Year 2019 to be 0.55 %
- FY2020 Human Services Council Community Partnership Agreement Proposal to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention

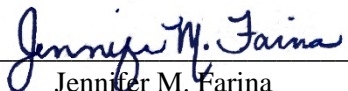
**County Administrators Report:**

- Mr. Goldman stated that they are prepping roads for tar and chip process which will be contracted out for the month of May
- He stated that the sewage line to the Human Resources Office will be needing replacement soon.

**County Commissioners Discussion Period:**

Commissioner Porter and Franklin thanked Commissioner Levensgood for attending many legislative session meetings over the 2019 legislative session. Commissioner Porter stated that he would like to come off of the Social Services Advisory Board and have Mr. Goldman assigned as the Commissioners' designee.

There being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

  
Jennifer M. Farina  
Administrative Coordinator