

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 23, 2010

The Howard County Council met Tuesday, November 23, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Richard Miller, Vice President Paul Wyman, and members James Papacek, Stan Ortman, Leslie Ellison, Joseph Pencek and Jeff Stout. Also in attendance were County Attorney Larry Murrell and Auditor Ann Wells.

The meeting was called to order by Major Steve Rogers and conducted by President Miller.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the October 26, 2010 Regular Council meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Papacek and seconded by Mr. Pencek.

At this time Councilman Stan Ortman opened the meeting with a word of Prayer.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2010-HCCO-31 – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:

Auditor Ann Wells read Ordinance No. 2010-HCCO-31 – Additional Appropriations through one time and it was acted upon as follows:

		AMOUNT REQUESTED:	APPROVED:
<u>001</u>	<u>Howard County General Fund</u>		
<u>008</u>	<u>Howard County Superior Court II</u>		
04724.00	Law Books	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00

Superior Court II Judge Stephen Jessup was not able to come to tonight's meeting due to illness. Ms. Wells submitted and read from a letter received from Judge Jessup. This request for additional funds is needed to pay a past due bill and an additional invoice for December's judicial information. Judge Jessup will be retiring at the end of this year and desires that this issue be resolved before the interim Judge begins.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the request of \$2,500.00 to line item 04724.00, Law Books. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman and the vote carried with four aye votes and two nay votes by Mr. Wyman and Mr. Ellison.

<u>016</u>	<u>Howard County Clerk – Election</u>		
03120.00	Contract Services	\$ 3,000.00	\$ Withdrawn
03241.00	Ballot Printing	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 18,000.00

On behalf of Clerk Mona Myers, Election Board Member Connie Howard justified the \$18,000.00 request for Ballot Printing, and reviewed with the Council the process of trying to order the right amount of ballots to be printed. Ms. Howard also withdrew the \$3,000.00 request for funds in their Contract Services account.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Stout and carried to approve the request of \$18,000.00 to line item 03241.00, Ballot Printing, and to withdraw the request of \$3,000.00 to line item 03120.00 Contract Services.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2010-HCCR-22 – TRANSFERS:

Auditor Wells read Resolution No. 2010-HCCR-22 – Transfers in full one time, and they were acted upon as follows:

	Transfer From:	To:	AMOUNT REQUESTED:	ALLOWED:
<u>001</u>	<u>Howard County General Fund</u>			
<u>008</u>	<u>Howard County Superior Court II</u>			
01118.00	Overtime	01117.00 Part Time	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00

The Transfer form from Superior Court II was read as follows: My court reporter of 16+ years has resigned. Due to my scheduled retirement on December 31, 2010, the position will not be filled until appointment of the next judge. Therefore, it will be necessary to have funds available to pay part-time help in the interim.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the transfer request as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried.

<u>014</u>	<u>Howard County Superior Court I</u>				
01150.00	Assistant Court Reporter	01113.00	Court Reporter	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
01115.00	Part Time Clerical	02360.00	Office Supplies	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00

Due to a conflict, Superior Court I Judge William Menges was not able to be in attendance, this evening. Auditor Wells submitted a letter from Judge Menges in support of the transfer request. In April of this year, the Court Reporter retired. She was paid her accumulated time, leaving this line item short. This amount is needed to continue to cover the payroll of the new Court Reporter. The transfer to office supplies is needed to cover additional expenses due to three very high-profile murder cases, as well as expenses related to the new scanning equipment.

A motion was made by Mr. Ortman, seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried to approve the transfer requests as submitted.

<u>023</u>	<u>Howard County Commissioners</u>				
03216.00	Communications	01126.00	Drainage Board	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00

Auditor Wells informed the Council that in November there was an additional Drainage Board Meeting / Public Hearing for the Kitty Run Drain. There was not enough funds budgeted for this meeting, and the Board of Commissioners request this transfer from their Communications line item to the Drainage Board line item to specifically cover the expense of this meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the transfer request of \$150.00 from line item 03216.00, Communications, to 01126.00 Drainage Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stout and carried.

<u>033</u>	<u>Howard County Superior Court III</u>				
01114.00	Clerk / Civil	01117.00	Part Time	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00

President Miller reminded the Council members that Superior Court III Judge Tate justified this request at the October 26th meeting (*please refer to page one, "In The Matter Of Personnel Issues For Superior Court III" of the Regular meeting minutes dated October 26, 2010*)

A motion was made by Mr. Ortman, seconded by Mr. Papacek and carried to approve the transfer as submitted.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2010-HCCO-32:

Treasurer Martha Lake submitted Ordinance No. 2010-HCCO-32. This Ordinance authorizes monthly payment installments for payment of property taxes, by means of automatic monthly deductions (AMD) from an account of the taxpayer that is held by a financial institution (*please refer to page one, "In The Matter Of A Presentation Of A Property Tax Monthly Payment Plan", of the Regular Meeting minutes dated October 26, 2010*). Ms. Lake took this opportunity to inform the Council members that tax collections have gone well, this fall and that the part time workers who began their work with taxes on November 3rd were dismissed on November 18th. Ms. Lake is very proud of her staff and part time workers. Mr. Skipp Florea, President of Star Financial Bank, was also in attendance, tonight, to answer any questions. A motion was made by Mr. Ortman, seconded by Mr. Wyman and carried to approve Ordinance No. 2010-HCCO-32, approving the payment of property taxes through automatic monthly deductions from an account of the taxpayer that is held by a financial institution. Mr. Murrell called attention to the fact that this Ordinance applies to the Spring 2011 collection time. This procedure process is still being implemented. If for some reason the program is not ready for the Spring Collection date, Mr. Murrell will recommend to the Council that this Ordinance be revisited for possible amendment, reflecting the implementation date.

IN THE MATTER OF PART-TIME BENEFITS DISCUSSION:

At the October 26th meeting Councilman Papacek distributed copies of a report concerning statistics for funding the Part Time Employee insurance and the possibility of changing the employee contribution rate to 50% for the health insurance benefits, leaving the rate as it currently stands, or NOT providing insurance and contracting with the Public Defenders in lieu of including them on the County's Payroll (*please refer to page five, "In The Matter Of Part Time County Employee Insurance", of the Regular Meeting minutes dated October 26, 2010*). The Councilmen were asked to review the material

and be prepared for discussion at tonight's meeting. Discussion ensued and at its conclusion it was the consensus of the Council to make no change in part-time benefits at this time.

IN THE MATTER OF OPEN ENROLLMENT PACKETS:

Personnel Director Wanda McKillip distributed Open Enrollment Packets to the Councilmen and informed them that the Open Enrollment meetings will take place next Thursday and Friday, December 2nd and 3rd.

The NOVIA Clinic is going very well and Ms. McKillip reported an 80 – 85% capacity.

Mr. Miller reminded the Council that December's meeting is on the 14th at 12:00 Noon.

There being no further business to come before the County Council at this time, a motion was made by Mr. Wyman, seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL:

RICHARD A. MILLER, PRESIDENT

PAUL G. WYMAN, VICE PRESIDENT

JAMES PAPACEK, COUNCILMAN

STAN ORTMAN, COUNCILMAN

LESLIE ELLISON, COUNCILMAN

JEFF STOUT, COUNCILMAN

JOE PENCEK, COUNCILMAN

ATTEST:

ANN WELLS, AUDITOR

Howard County Council Meeting November 23, 2010