

**COUNTY COUNCIL
OF
HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND**

2024 Legislative Session

**Legislative Day No. 2
February 5, 2024**

HOWARD COUNTY TO WIT:

The Chairperson called the legislative session to order at **7:01** p.m.

Chairperson Deb Jung, Vice Chairperson, Liz Walsh, Council Member Opel Jones, and Council Member David Yungmann were present.

Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council; Owen Clark, Acting County Auditor; Gary Kuc, County Solicitor; Amanda Mihill, Assistant County Solicitor; Jennifer Sager, Legislative Coordinator; Theo Wimberly, Legislative Manager; Owen Khan, Legislative Analyst; Isaiah Anderson, Executive Assistant were also present-

APPROVE JOURNAL AND MINUTES

The Chairperson moved to approve the **Journal** of Legislative Session – January 2, 2024

The motion was seconded by Ms. Walsh.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve the Journal was: Yea: Council Members Jung, Jones, Walsh and Yungmann.

The motion to approve the Journals passed.

The Chairperson moved to approve the **Minutes** of:

Monthly Meeting – January 9, 2024
Legislative Public Hearing – January 16, 2024
Legislative Work Session – January 23, 2024

The motion was seconded by Ms. Walsh.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve the minutes was: Yea: Council Members Jung, Jones, Walsh and Yungmann.

The motion to approve the minutes passed.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

Introduction

Appointments

- CR14-2024** - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Kelly Cimino as an additional nonvoting Commissioner to the Housing Commission.
- CR15-2024** - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION approving a list of Howard County residents to be sent to the Governor, in accordance with State law, so that the Governor may choose one of the residents from the list to fill a vacancy on the Property Tax Assessment Appeal Board.

Reappointments

- CR16-2024** - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Jin Chung to the Asian American and Pacific Islander Commission.
- CR17-2024** - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Sanjeev Gholap to the Asian American and Pacific Islander Commission.
- CR18-2024** - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Saffiyah Madraswala to the Asian American and Pacific Islander Commission.

Financial

- CB5-2024** - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive AN ACT making emergency appropriations pursuant to Section 610(b) of the Howard County Charter and amending the Annual Budget and Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2024 in order to receive Water Quality State Revolving Funds in the amount of \$23,500,000 from the State of Maryland for the County's Safe and Sound project; adding loan funding to Capital Project C0337, Ellicott City Improvements and Enhancements; and declaring that this Act is an Emergency Bill necessary to meet a public emergency affecting life, health or property.
- CB6-2024** - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive AN ACT pursuant to Section 612 of the Howard County Charter, approving Lease Agreement between Howard County, Maryland and AAK II, LLC, a Maryland Limited Liability Company, for approximately 13,057 square feet of rentable space in a building located at 7095 Samuel Morse Drive, Columbia, Maryland, under the terms of which the County agrees to pay certain costs associated with the premises; authorizing the County Executive to enter into the Lease Agreement and to make changes to the Lease Agreement before executing it, under certain conditions; and generally relating to a multi-year Lease.
- CR19-2024** - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION adopting a permit fee for the Publicly Accessible Electric Scooter Sharing System.

General

- CB7-2024** - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
AN ACT reorganizing the Executive Branch of County Government pursuant to Section 403 of the Howard County Charter; moving the Office of Consumer Protection to the Department of County Administration; establishing an Office of Agriculture within the Department of County Administration; establishing an Opioid Restitution Fund Commission within the Department of Community Resources and Services; setting forth the duties and qualifications of the Opioid Restitution Fund Commission; providing that the Office of Community Partnerships within the Department of Community Resources and Services shall perform certain functions with regard to the receipt of Opioid Restitution Funds; setting forth the duties and qualifications of the Administrator of the Office of Agriculture; removing certain functions from the Office of Community Sustainability that will be functions of the Office of Agriculture; moving the function of administering homelessness services to the Department of Housing and Community Development; requiring that members of the Opioid Restitution Fund Commission provide certain financial disclosure statements; clarifying certain duties; making certain technical corrections; and generally relating to the Executive Branch of County Government.
- CR20-2024** - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION amending a Resolution previously adopted by the County Council to correct the term of an appointment to the Howard County Housing Commission.
- CR21-2024** - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the Howard County Council
A RESOLUTION calling the County Council of Howard County, Maryland into legislative session on specified dates.
- CB8-2024** - Introduced by Liz Walsh
AN ACT amending the process for approving waivers which allow for alternative compliance to protections of wetlands, streams, and steep slopes; requiring the Departments that grant the waivers to adhere to certain requirements; and generally relating to the alternative compliance for protection of wetlands, streams, and steep slopes.
- CB9-2024** - Introduced by Christiana Rigby Co-sponsor(s) Opel Jones, Deb Jung
AN ACT amending the Public Protection Services title of the Code to require Motor Vehicle Fueling Station operators to add the highest price on their fuel pricing signs; and generally relating to Motor Vehicle Fueling Stations.
- CR22-2024** - Introduced by Liz Walsh
A RESOLUTION demanding an immediate cease-fire in Gaza; calling upon the Biden administration to facilitate certain humanitarian assistance into Gaza; and urging certain elected officials to take immediate action to use their position and influence to end this humanitarian crisis.

FINAL CONSIDERATION

All appointment resolutions were read and voted on together except CR5-2024 and CR10-2024

Appointments

CR1-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Kristen Aybar OTR/L, to the Commission on Aging.

CR2-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Barbara Darley, JD, to the Commission on Aging.

CR3-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Arthur Gold to the Commission on Aging.

CR4-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of James Earl Hollywood III to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission.

CR6-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Julie-Ann S. Hutchinson to the Board of Social Services.

CR7-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Carol Miller to the Board of Social Services.

CR8-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Renee F. Williams to the Commission on Aging.

CR9-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Thomas Zei to the LGBTQIA+ Commission.

Reappointments

CR11-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of James Jiyu Obasiolu to the Environmental Sustainability Board.

The Chair moved to approve **CR 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9;** and **11-2024**. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walsh.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve **CR 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9;** and **11-2024** was Yea: Council Members Jung, Jones, Walsh, and Yungmann.

The motion to approve **CR 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9;** and **11-2024** passed.

CR10-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION approving a list of Howard County residents to be sent to the Governor, in accordance with State law, so that the Governor may choose one of the residents from the list to fill a vacancy on the Property Tax Assessment Appeal Board.

The Chair moved to approve **CR 10 -2024**. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walsh.

The Chair moved to approve **Amendment 1** to **CR10-2024**. The motion was seconded by Dr. Jones.

Amendment 1 to CR10-2024

(This Amendment corrects the term of the appointment which should be 5 years, per Section 3-103 of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.)

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Amendment 1 to CR10-2024 was Yea: Council Members Jung, Jones, Walsh, and Yungmann.

The motion to approve Amendment 1 to CR10-2024 passed.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve CR10-2024 as amended was Yea: Council Members, Jung, Jones, Walsh, and Yungmann.

The motion to approve CR10-2024 as amended passed.

CR5-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Steven Hunt to the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board.

The Chair moved to table **CR5-2024**. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walsh.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to table CR5-2024 was Yea: Council Members Jung, Jones, Walsh, and Yungmann.

The motion to table CR5-2024 passed.

Financial

CB1-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive AN ORDINANCE authorizing and empowering the County to issue up to \$17,200,000 of its special obligation refunding bonds at a maximum interest rate not to exceed 6.10% per annum in order to refinance the cost of certain public improvements relating to the development district in Howard County, Maryland known as the “Annapolis Junction Town Center Development District” (the “Development District”) and the special taxing district in Howard County, Maryland known as the “Annapolis Junction Town Center Special Taxing District” (the “Special Taxing District”) and other costs permitted under the Acts (as identified herein) through the issuance of bonds to refund the County’s outstanding Special Obligation Bonds (Annapolis Junction Town Center Project) 2014 Series; providing that such bonds and the interest thereon shall never constitute a general obligation of the County or a pledge of its full faith and credit; providing for the further specification, prescription, determination, provision for or approval of various other matters, details, documents and procedures in connection with the authorization, issuance, security, sale and payment for any such bonds; making certain legislative findings; and generally ratifying the levy, imposition, collection and application of such special tax and the issuance of refunding bonds in accordance with the Acts identified herein.

The Chair moved to approve **CB1 -2024**. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walsh.

The Chair moved to approve **Amendment 1** to **CB1-2024**. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walsh.

Amendment 1 to CB1-2024

(This Amendment corrects a reference to a previously enacted Bill.)

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Amendment 1 to CB1-2024 was Yea: Council Members Jung, Jones, Walsh, and Yungmann.

The motion to approve Amendment 1 to CB1-2024 passed.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve CB1-2024 as amended was Yea: Council Members, Jung, Jones, Walsh, and Yungmann.

The motion to approve CB1-2024 as amended passed.

General

CB2-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive AN ACT approving and providing for a multi-year Installment Purchase Agreement by Howard County, Maryland to acquire development rights in approximately 56.02 acres of agricultural land located at 1611 Saint Michaels Road, Woodbine, Howard County, Maryland, from Rhonda Winkler and Jeff Winkler or any other owner thereof for a maximum purchase price of \$2,191,600 or, if less in acreage, not more than \$39,120 per acre or portion thereof, rounded to the next highest \$100, plus interest on the deferred portion of such purchase price; providing that the County's obligation to pay such purchase price and interest on the deferred portion of such purchase price shall be a full faith and credit general obligation of the County; providing for the levying of taxes for such payments; authorizing the County Executive to modify such Agreement; and providing for and determining various matters in connection therewith.

The Chair moved to approve **CB2 -2024**. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walsh.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve CB2-2024 was Yea: Council Members, Jung, Jones, Walsh, and Yungmann.

The motion to approve CB2-2024 passed.

CB3-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive AN ACT imposing a cap on the amount of damages that can be awarded to a person aggrieved by a prohibited employment action; and generally relating causes of action and the award of civil remedies.

The Chair moved to table **CB3 -2024**. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walsh.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to table **CB3-2024** was Yea: Council Members, Jung, Jones, Walsh, and Yungmann.

The motion to table **CB3-2024** passed.

CR12-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive A RESOLUTION pursuant to the Howard County Cable Television Systems Franchise Act, granting a franchise renewal application received from Comcast of Howard County, LLC and providing that the parties shall agree on the terms of a franchise agreement within a certain time.

The Chair moved to approve **CR12-2024**. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walsh.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve **CR12-2024** was Yea: Council Members Jung, Jones, Walsh, and Yungmann.

The motion to approve **CR12-2024** passed.

CR13-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the Howard County Council A. RESOLUTION amending the Rules of Procedure of the Howard County Council that allow for the creation and reading of legislative short titles under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the Rules of Procedure of the Howard County Council.

The Chair moved to approve **CR13-2024**. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walsh.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve **CR13-2024** was Yea: Council Members Jung, Jones, Walsh, and Yungmann.

The motion to approve **CR13-2024** passed.

CB4-2024 - Introduced by Liz Walsh

AN ACT repealing certain provisions of law that provide optional methods for a developer to provide moderate income housing units under the zoning regulations and that allow a developer to request permission from the Director of Housing to use alternative compliance to certain optional methods; repealing certain provisions of law relating to market-based required alternatives to the moderate income housing unit obligation; repealing certain provisions of law relating to alternatives to moderate income housing unit obligation in certain zones; repealing certain provisions of law relating to the sale of moderate income housing units; repealing certain provisions of law relating to the rental of moderate income housing units; altering certain definitions and certain regulations; and generally relating to the sale of moderate income housing units.

Ms. Walsh moved to approve **CB4 -2024**. The motion was seconded by The Chair.

Ms. Walsh moved to approve **Amendment 1** to **CB4-2024**. The motion was seconded by The Chair.

Amendment 1 to CB4-2024

(This Amendment strikes alternative compliance options for age-restricted adult housing units and planned senior communities and restores all other provisions relating to alternative compliance for MIHU that were stricken in the bill.)

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve **Amendment 1** to **CB4-2024** was Yea: Council Members Jung, Jones, Walsh, and Yungmann.

The motion to approve **Amendment 1** to **CB4-2024** passed.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve **CB4-2024** as amended was Yea: Council Members, Jung, and Walsh. Nay: Council Members, Jones, and Yungmann

The motion to approve **CB4-2024** as amended failed.

CR22-2024 - Introduced by Liz Walsh

A RESOLUTION demanding an immediate cease-fire in Gaza; calling upon the Biden administration to facilitate certain humanitarian assistance into Gaza; and urging certain elected officials to take immediate action to use their position and influence to end this humanitarian crisis.

The Chair moved to approve **CR22-2024**. The motion was seconded by Mr. Yungmann.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve **CR22-2024** was Yea: Council Member Walsh. Nay: Council Members Jung, Jones, and Yungmann.

The motion to approve **CR22-2024** failed.

TABLED

CR5-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Steven Hunt to the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board.

CB3-2024 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT imposing a cap on the amount of damages that can be awarded to a person aggrieved by a prohibited employment action; and generally relating causes of action and the award of civil remedies.

Adjourned at 7:40 p.m.