

## **Howard County Council**

COUNCILMEMBERS

George Howard Building 3430 Courthouse Drive Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392 Mary Kay Sigaty, Chairperson District 4 Jennifer Terrasa, Vice Chairperson District 3 Calvin Ball District 2 Greg Fox District 5 Courtney Watson District 1

Minutes (approved 11/2/09) Legislative Work Session October 26, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 4:46 pm in the Board Room, Board of Education, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City.

Members present: Calvin Ball, Greg Fox, Mary Kay Sigaty, Jennifer Terrasa and Courtney Watson.

Discussion: The members discussed the following items related to the following bills:

Council Bill No. 52-2009 – Introduced by Courtney Watson and at the request of the County Executive/co-sponsored by Calvin Ball, Greg Fox, Mary Kay Sigaty, and Jennifer Terrasa - Granting a certain tax credit against the Howard County property tax for certain residential real property owned by certain disabled law enforcement officers or rescue workers; defining certain terms; and generally relating to County property tax credits for disabled law enforcement officers or rescue workers in Howard County

The members discussed proposed amendments to (1) remove the restrictions that limit the credit to employees of or volunteers in Howard County and (2) allow the credit to employees of or volunteers in jurisdictions with reciprocity. Mr. Meyers reported on the data from Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties. The members expressed a preference for (2), although there is the additional concern that a jurisdiction with reciprocity might change its law. Staff was directed to prepare a revised amendment that would preserve the credit. The members also discussed an Administration amendment to allow the credit to surviving spouses of correctional offices.

Council Resolution No. 86-2009 – Making certain findings and designating the Route 1 Corridor as a Recovery Zone for the issuance of Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds and Recovery Zone Facility Bonds

The members discussed whether to include the Rte. 32 corridor as a Recovery Zone. Sharon Greisz explained that the Administration chose the Rte. 1 corridor based on the available funding (\$18.4 million), the earlier focus the area has received and the advent of BRAC.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.